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(40, No. 1851.)

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We shall confine our quotations to those portions of the book which treat of the larger and more general questions;—for, we cannot but feel that the public interest in what may be called the controverted niceties of the subject has long since subsided. The following passage, relative to Lord Auckland and his advisers in the early months of 1838, will not fail to strike our readers as a graphic piece of writing.

"Unfortunately, at this time, Lord Auckland was separated from his Council. He was on his way to that pleasant hill Sanitarium at Simlah, where our Governors-General, surrounded by irresponsible advisers, settle the destinies of empires without the aid of their legitimate fellow-counsellors, and which has been the cradle of more political insanity than any place within the limits of Hindostan. Just as Mahomed Shah was beginning to open his batteries upon Herat, and Captain Burnes was entering Caubul, Lord Auckland, taking with him three civilians, all men of ability and repute,—Mr. William Macnaghten, Mr. Henry Torrens, and Mr. John Colvin,—turned his back upon Calcutta. Mr. Macnaghten was at this time Chief Secretary to Government. He had originally entered the service of the East India Company in the year 1809, as a cadet of cavalry on the Madras establishment; and, whilst yet a boy, acquired considerable reputation by the extent of his acquirements as an Oriental linguist. Transferred in 1814 to the Bengal civil service, he landed at Calcutta as the bearer of the highest testimonials from the Government under which he had served; and soon justified by his distinguished scholarship in the college of Fort William the praises and recommendations of the authorities of Madras. It was publicly said of the young civilian by Lord Hastings, that 'there was not a language taught in the college in which he had not earned the highest distinctions which the government or the college could bestow.' On leaving college he was appointed an assistant in the office of the Register of the Sudder Dewany Adawlut, or High

Court of Appeal; and in 1818 he quitted Calcutta to enter upon the practical duties of the magistracy; but after a few years was recalled to the Presidency and his old office, and in a little while was at the head of the department in which he had commenced his career. During a period of eight years and a half, Mr. Macnaghten continued to occupy the responsible post of Register of the Sudder Dewany Adawlut; and was only removed thence to accompany Lord William Bentinck, in the capacity of secretary, on the tour which that benevolent statesman was about to commence, at the close of 1830, through the Upper and Western Provinces of India. The objects of this journey were connected entirely with measures of internal reform; but having approached the territories of Runjeet Sing, the Governor General met the old Sikh chief at Roopur, and there Macnaghten, who had up to this time been almost wholly associated with affairs of domestic administration, graduated in foreign politics, and began to fathom the secrets of the Lahore Durbar. Returning early in 1833 to Calcutta, with his experience greatly enlarged, and his judgment matured by the opportunities afforded him on his journey, as well as by his intimate relationship with so enlightened and liberal a statesman as Lord William Bentinck, Macnaghten now took charge of the Secret and Political Department of the Government Secretariat, and remained in the office during the interregnum of Sir Charles Metcalfe, and the first year of Lord Auckland's administration, until summoned by the latter to accompany him on his tour to the North-western Provinces. Such, briefly narrated, were the antecedents of Macnaghten's official life. That he was one of the ablest and most assiduous of the many able and assiduous servants of the East India Company all men were ready to admit. With a profound knowledge of Oriental languages and Oriental customs, he combined an extensive acquaintance with all the practical details of government, and was scarcely more distinguished as an erudite scholar than as an expert secretary. In his colleague and assistant, Mr. Henry Torrens, there were some points of resemblance to Macnaghten; for the younger officer was also an accomplished linguist and a ready writer, but he was distinguished by a more mercurial temperament and more varied attainments. Perhaps there was not in all the presidencies of India a man,—certainly not so young a man,—with the lustre of so many accomplishments upon him. The facility with which he acquired every kind of information was scarcely more remarkable than the tenacity with which he retained it. With the languages of the East and West he was equally familiar. He had read books of all kinds and in all tongues; and the airy grace with which he could throw off a French canonnet was something as perfect of its kind as the military genius with which he could sketch out the plan of a campaign, or of the official pomp with which he could inflate a state paper. His gaiety and vivacity made him a welcome addition to the Governor-General's vice-regal court; and perhaps not the least of his recommendations as a travelling companion was, that he could amuse the ladies of Lord Auckland's family with as much felicity as he could assist the labours of that nobleman himself.—Mr. John Colvin was the private secretary of the Governor-General, and his confidential adviser. Of all the men about Lord Auckland he was believed to exercise the most direct influence over that statesman's mind. Less versatile than Torrens, and less gifted with the lighter accomplishments of literature and art, he possessed a stronger will and more powerful understanding. He was a man of much decision and resolution of character; not troubled with doubts and misgivings; and sometimes, perhaps hasty in his judgments. But there was something noble and generous in his ambition. He never forgot either the claims of his country or the reputation of his chief. And if he were vain, his vanity was of the higher, but not the less dangerous of its class, which seeks rather to mould the measures and establish the fame of others than to acquire distinction for self.—Such were the men who accompanied Lord Auckland to the Upper Provinces of India. About him also clustered the common, smaller staff, of military aids-de-camp; and not very far in the background were the two

sisters of his Lordship—ladies of remarkable intelligence and varied accomplishments, who are supposed to have exercised an influence not wholly confined to the social amenities of the vice-regal camp. Lord Auckland was possessed of a clear judgment, and his integrity of purpose is undoubted; but he wanted decision of character—he too often mistrusted his own opinions and yielded his assent to those irresponsible advisers less single-minded and sagacious than himself. There was no want of capacity in Lord Auckland's camp. The men by whom he was surrounded were among the ablest and most accomplished in the country; but it was for the most part a dangerous kind of cleverness that they possessed; there was too much presumption in it. The secretaries, especially the two younger ones, were too ardent and impulsive—they were of too bold and ambitious a nature to be regarded as anything better than perilous and delusive guides. But Lord Auckland trusted himself to their guidance. Perhaps he scarcely knew to what extent he was swayed by their counsels; but it is my deliberate conviction, that if he had not quitted Calcutta, or if he had been surrounded by older and more experienced advisers, he would have followed a line of policy more in accordance with his own feelings and opinions, and less destructive to the interests of the empire. But so surrounded, Lord Auckland journeyed by easy stages towards the cool mountain ranges of the Himalayah; and as he advanced there came to the vice-regal camp tidings, from time to time, of the progress or no progress of Mahomed Shah's army before Herat, and of Burnes's diplomatic movements at the Court of the Cautub Amer. There was much in all this to perplex Lord Auckland. He was in all sincerity a man of peace. They who best knew his character and that of his chief secretary, predicted that if war could in any way be avoided, there would be no war. But from all quarters came disturbing hints and dangerous promptings; and to be true to his own moderate and cautious character, Mr. McNeil had despatched Major Todd from Herat to the camp of the Governor-General; and had urgently solicited Lord Auckland to adopt vigorous measures for the intimidation of Persia and the defence of Herat, which it was alleged, could not much longer resist the efforts of the investing force. Nothing short of the march of a British army upon Herat was thought by some sufficient to stem the tide of Russo-Persian invasion. The British Government, seeing everywhere signs of the restless aggressive spirit of Russia, and the evident tendency of all her movements towards the East, had written strong letters to the Governor-General, urging him to adopt vigorous measures of defence. His own immediate advisers were at hand to second the suggestions of both Mr. McNeil and the British minister; and so Lord Auckland, though he hesitated to undertake a grand military expedition across the Indus, was persuaded to enter upon defensive measures of a dubious character, affecting the whole question of the sovereignty of the Douranee Empire."

Mr. Kaye describes with clearness and vigour the nature of the first scheme of interference in Afghanistan, as partly embodied in the Tripartite Treaty of the 26th of June, 1838,—namely, the employment of a small British force as purely subsidiary to a larger native army which was to take the field in the interest and pay of Runjeet Singh. Gradually this limited measure of British intervention was given up; and it was determined by Lord Auckland and his secretaries—for let it ever be remembered that the Legislative Council was all the while at Calcutta, and in total ignorance of the proceedings at Simlah—to make war on a grand scale. Mr. Kaye refers to this fatal extension of the Auckland policy—or more properly of the policy of Sir John Hobbouse and the Ministry at home—in the following passage,—

"It is obvious that, in all the negotiations detailed in the preceding chapter, the paramount idea was that of an alliance between Runjeet Singh and Shah Soojah, guaranteed by the British Government, and a conjoint expedition into Afghanistan from the two sides of Peshawar and Shikarpoor, to be undertaken

by the armies of the Lahore ruler and the Suddozye Prince. It was hinted to Runjeet Singh that events might be developed which would render necessary the more active co-operation of the British army; but Shah Soojah, who was desirous above all things that the British should not take the foremost part in the coming expedition, was led to believe that, assisted by a few British officers, he would be left to recover for himself his old dominions, and that he would by no means become a puppet in the hands of the Feringhee allies. But these moderate views were about now to be expanded into a political scheme of far wider scope and significance. Whilst Macnaghten was negotiating the Tripartite Treaty at Lahore and Loodhianah, John Colvin and Henry Torrens remained at Simlah, as the scribes and counsellors of the Governor-General. To what extent their bolder speculations wrought upon the plastic mind of Lord Auckland it is not easy, with due historical accuracy, to determine. But it is generally conjectured that the influences then set at work overcame the scruples of the cautious and peace-loving statesman, and induced him to sanction an enterprise of magnitude commensurate with the bold and ambitious views of his irresponsible advisers. The direct influence mainly emanated from John Colvin. It is probable, indeed, that the counsels of a man so young and so erratic as Henry Torrens would have met with no acceptance from the sober-minded nobleman at the head of the Government, but for a circumstance which gave weight to his opinions and cogency to his advice. By all the accidents of birth and early associations, as well as by the bent of his own genius, the young civilian was a true soldier. The son of a distinguished officer and an approved military teacher, he had graduated, whilst yet a boy, in the learning of the camp, and his after-studies had done much to perfect his acquaintance with the tactics and strategy of modern warfare. He possessed, indeed, the very knowledge which other members of the Simlah Council most wanted; and hence it was that he came to exercise considerable influence over Lord Auckland,—more perhaps through his brother than directly brought to bear upon the mind of the Governor-General himself. It was urged that the expedition, if intrusted entirely to Shah Soojah and the Sikhs would end in disastrous failure; and there was at least some probability in this. Runjeet Singh was no more than luke-warm in the cause; and the Sikhs were detested in Afghanistan. Lord Auckland shrank from the responsibility of despatching a British army across the Indus; but, warned of the danger of identifying himself with a slighter measure promising little certainty of success, he halted, for a time, between two opinions, and slowly yielded to the assaults of his scribes."

The book before us is not wholly occupied with political disquisitions. It contains several passages of great descriptive merit:—for some of which we may probably draw on its pages next week.

Punch's Pocket-Book for 1852. Illustrated by John Leech and John Tenniel. Punch Office.

WITH the chrysanthemums generally come in the first-fruits of the New Year's literature. Books and broadsheets for the desk, office and library wall begin to crowd our table; and among the foremost of these we look for the visit of our ancient friend the laughter-loving philosopher of Fleet Street, with his pictorial and literary quips and cranks and wreathed smiles,—a pleasant guest at all seasons of the year, and most of all so when the long nights and morning fogs warn us to draw round the winter fire, and seek our enjoyments "in books" and men's converse."

The coloured frontispiece this year is not, in our opinion, happy, either in subject or in treatment; but some of the minor illustrations are full of farcical point and drollery. Take as examples, 'Le Lord Maire as he goes through the Pool (incog),' and is thankful that he is an Englishman,'—'Mr. Lothbury's Night-mare,'—and 'A Wife for Sale.' The literature is, as usual in this annual, various,—but the serio-

sarcastic is perhaps somewhat in excess of the other ingredients. In the burlesque vein we have a parody on M. Alexandre Dumas—"humbly dedicated" to that dramatist as "the author of *Kean*"—entitled, 'A Wife to be Sold.' The absurd ideas of English life and manners, still common property to play-wrights beyond the Channel, are very pleasantly quizzed in this sketch:—from which the following is a scene, that will suggest the rest.—

SCENE.—The Police Court at the Mansion-House. The Lord Mayor on his Throne. Men in steel and brass armour on either side of his Lordship.

Lord Mayor. Who waits for justice? Who, at the shrine of Gog Magog, invokes the paternal benevolence of London's Mayor?

Mary Bitters (entering). I do! Tom Bitters (following her). And I! Bill Roundabout (following him). And I! Mrs. Atkins (bringing up the rear). And I! All (with one voice). We all wait.

Clerk. Silence before his Majesty the Mayor! [God Save the Queen is then played upon a chaise organ, all present kneeling. On conclusion, the Men in Armour give a flourish of trumpets.]

Lord Mayor. Now, speak; and still respectful of the British Constitution, speak only one at a time. Who's the complainant?

Alk. All! Tom Bitters. No! may it please your reverent Highness, that am I. In the first place, I'm this woman's husband—Mrs. Atkins (aside). Woman, indeed! Who does he call a woman?

Clerk. Silence in the Court!

Tom Bitters. And it's a 'stablished fact that every Englishman's garret is his Tilbury Fort. Magna Charter says—not that I'm a Charlist yet, if tyranny don't drive me to it—you shan't postpone or sell justice. Besides which, the liberty of the press is like the air we breathe, 'specially the air in our Court. The Bill of Rights gives to every husband the monarchy of his own fireside; and yet, in defiance of the sacred principles of *Habeas corpus*, I find that callit blighting the roses that flourish on my hearth-stone. Them, my Lord! God Save the Queen—Britannia Rules the Waves—and the Roast Beef of Old England!

Lord Mayor. Restrain your feelings. You know what rules this peaceful, happy land?

Tom Bitters (folding his arms; and with a proud look). The staff of the policeman!

Lord Mayor. Potent and beauteous piece of wood! Wood sweeter than the cedars of Solomon—more precious than the ivory sceptre of Indian kings—wood that sways and stills the roaring multitude, even as Neptune's trident rebukes and hushes the foaming billows! Wood armed with the heartstrings of every Briton twine, and—but, perhaps, I'm discursive—proceed with the case. The charge?

Tom Bitters. Assault! He, that coalheaver in the human form, struck me to the earth. For further particulars, look in this right eye.

Lord Mayor. The case is black indeed.

Clerk (laughing loudly). An excellent jest! Ha! ha! ha! Lord Mayor (to Roundabout). You struck the complainant?

Roundabout. My lord, I did. But he would have struck his wife!

Alk. the Court. Ha!

Roundabout. And let a thousand treadmills grind me, but so long as I can wield this free right hand, and so long as a woman's in distress, so long is it man's first business to fly to her rescue!

[Applause in Court, immediately suppressed by the Men in Armour.]

Lord Mayor (to Mary). You are complainant's wife! Then speak, and say, how came defendant in complainant's cupboard?

Tom Bitters (with fierce sarcasm). Aye, my lord; on that toe the shoe (special pinches); let her answer that!

Mary. I am innocent, for—he is my husband!

Roundabout. He is, my lord, I can't deny it; the wame my luck. You see, my lord, I loved that fair young bud; thought to wear her in my button-hole, next my heart for life: I loved her, when the spoiler came—

Lord Mayor (moved). Prisoner, I feel for your position, but justice is blind. Therefore, explain the cupboard.

Roundabout (dashing the tear from his eye). Even as the parent blackbird hovers round the place where was the nest where was her little ones—but my lord, it's no use beating round the bush; so this is it. I plead guilty to the fact: he struck that fair young creature, and (very proudly) I knocked him down.

Lord Mayor (putting on the black cap). Prisoner, in conformity with our Saxon institutions, blows are purchasable. There are blows, price five pounds—two pounds—one pound—five shillings. Taking your affections into consideration—for love is a fault of the immortal gods!—you will pay twenty shillings.

Roundabout. Not twenty farthings have I in the world.

Lord Mayor. Then, in punishment of your poverty, twenty days in gaol. Oakum and silence!

Mary. William!

Roundabout. Mary!

Lord Mayor (taking off the black cap). The solemn duty of the judge performed, common humanity may have its way. Husband, and wife, and lover,—listen.

* Mr. Punch hates plagiarism. He therefore, with the deepest respect for the author of this neat little drama, must warn the reader that this profound and touching sentiment is a violent theft from one of the good old comedies of upwards of forty years ago, when the drama was in its "paling state." No such writing now!

Will. } We will—we do.

Lord Mayor. On the ancient Champ-de-Smith—corrupted into Smithfield—blows and flourishes like the daisy, this time-honoured custom. The wedded knot may be unloosed, if, with halter round her neck, the wife is sold by husband to another lord.

Will. } You have; and bless you ever.

Lord Mayor. (resuming his dignity). The case, then, is decided; remove the prisoner out of court!

[Men in armour place themselves on each side of ROXBOROUGH, who throws a look of hope on MARY; who returns the same. BITTERS surveys them stoically. MRS. MARY ATKINS clasps her hands in thankfulness; and scene closes.]

From 'Logic for Ladies,' a paper in another mood, we borrow a few illustrations.—

"I am walking in Regent Street, and I see a shawl in a window. I see a lady on a gentleman's arm; she pauses, and gently drawing him to the door, induces him to enter. I reason from this induction that he will purchase it. * * *

"There is another kind of mental operation, which is peculiarly the property of the female logicians, and who would call it reasoning by inference. The following will illustrate our meaning. Suppose I am going to the Opera, and my wife asserts that the distance by an omnibus or by a fly is the same. This is, at the first glance, true enough; and if she continues by observing that 'things equal to each other, come exactly to the same,' I cannot contradict her. How, then, can I resist her reasoning, when she comes to the conclusion, that whether we go by a fly, or by an omnibus, can make no difference whatever?"

"Contingent reasoning is a separate branch of the science of Logic, and requires a few words of illustration. I go into the kitchen, and find a horse-guard in my cupboard. I have seen a horse-guard in my cupboard on a previous occasion, and I recollect he was the cousin to my former cook. Am I not justified in reasoning contingently, that all cooks have cousins in the horse-guards?"

"Let us now examine the process of forming a general inference from a collective fact. It is universally admitted that all dripping is saleable: from which I get the collective fact that my dripping is saleable, and the general inference will be, that if I put confidence in my cook, I am sold."

"Another instance of reasoning from inference may be thus stated. My wife puts my check-book on the table, and I at once draw the inference that I shall have to draw a check."

"Some logicians have held that drawing an inference is actually reasoning; but when called on to draw a check, it is no use to attempt to reason at all. * * *

"There is a kind of demonstrative inference, which would be extremely useful if it could be relied upon; but unfortunately, though it seems very good logic, it is good for nothing else. For example—I once paid my butcher, therefore my butcher is paid! Now, this sounds exceedingly well; but if I were to try on my butcher, as an argument for sending him away without his money, the experiment would fail. The mode of reasoning is, nevertheless, often tried with success by a wife on a husband, when she says to him: 'I once started for the Continent in the autumn. It is the autumn, and therefore I start for the Continent.' * * *

"Some logicians have held, that what is true of the whole, must be true of a part; but this proposition is absurd, for though it may be true of my wife's millinery bills, that I cannot pay the whole of them, it is not true that I cannot pay a part of them, for I may be at this moment ready with an offer of fourpence in the pound."

"Condillac has declared that there can be no reason or logic without words; but the logic practised by ladies is often much more convincing when words can be avoided; and, indeed, they have the art of persuading far more effectually with their eyes than with their tongues."

A few epigrams thrown together under the heading 'Thoughtful Hours, by a Fast Man,' have something of the real sting in them:—as our readers shall judge.—

"Husband and wife should run together on an

equality: it is dangerous for either to take the lead. The most difficult driving is that of a tandem! * * *

"Be not too ready to pronounce that, what you think a bad youth, will necessarily become a bad man. Yonder sturdy oak may have grown from an acorn that had been rejected by a hog! * * *

"How often we hear the harsh expression—'a good-natured fool!'—as if the milk of human kindness was always adulterated—like our common milk in London—with calves' brains!"

"For a heavy fellow to try poetry, is like a hodman marching up Jacob's ladder loaded with bricks."

"Your gentlemen, who are mad about ancient descent, should adopt the rag shop's announcement—'The best price given for old bones.'"

"A white ash is the sign of a good cigar—as a fair memory of a good life."

"Many young military men are merely ornaments—like 'arms' put on 'spoons.'"

It will be seen from these specimens, that under his cap and bells our old Christmas favourite retains in his green old age something of the fancy and wisdom which have long given him welcome at so many firesides.

Khartoum, and the Blue and White Niles. By George Melly. 2 vols. Colburn.

THESE volumes are as unaffected as they are pleasant:—containing more pictures and conveying more information than many a Nile-book of greater pretension. They are said to contain a simple re-arrangement of the contents of a journal kept without idea of publication. Mr. Melly obviously travelled in a humour both to enjoy and to observe; being one of a family party to whom no means and appliance of luxury were wanting. Their Oriental journey was darkened by the sudden death of its leader. Before, however, this calamity occurred, they had penetrated as far as Khartoum at the junction of the Blue and White Niles;—where never English woman had been before. The portion of Mr. Melly's journals devoted to this remote city is accordingly the freshest in interest, and from it we shall principally draw our extracts.—

"On the 26th of December [1859], the ninth day from Gebel Berkel, the fourteenth from Dongola, and the thirtieth from Wady Halfah, at five o'clock in the evening, we suddenly came down a hill in sight of the object of our journey. On a boundless plain below lay the junction of the two Niles; next we observed the white government house and the minarets of Khartoum; and then the broad White Nile stretched as far as one could see, looking like an immense lake, as it merged into the horizon. * * * It looked like the end of the world almost, as we gazed on the two rivers, sulkily flowing side by side, and would not fraternize as they rolled along. Lastly, appeared the boundless deserts beyond the town, making it look like a bulwark against barbarism and an outpost of civilization. An hour afterwards we pitched our tents on a green sward, between some tall trees, opposite the junction of the Blue and White Niles, on the banks of the latter. * * * The next morning we went on board a crazy boat, and impelled by a strong north wind, soon crossed to the confluence of the two rivers. The White Nile is not whiter than the Blue Nile is blue, yet there is a difference of colour, and the former has the strongest current and twice the breadth of the other. For three-quarters of a mile, the two rivers can be distinctly traced running side by side. We sailed up, or rather down, the Blue Nile, as near Khartoum it takes a considerable bend. About three miles from the point of junction is the town; in the intermediate space are two villages—in one the people are employed in ship-building. Khartoum, seen from the river, is a long mud wall, with several houses just peering above it, among which, most conspicuous, is the residence of the Governor, with its offices, the old Government House, and the Catholic Chapel and Mission. We proceeded to the Governor's offices, through a large open ground, in which two companies of troops, the best dressed and accoutred of any I have seen since I left Europe, were changing

guard, each company led by a soldier with a bedstead (!) on his bayonet. He being the officer, and the only one allowed such a luxury, the rest always sleeping on the ground. We next arrived at a court, in which were several brass pieces, then entered a large room fitted up with Turkish divans and European chairs. This was 'the Divan.' At one end sat Latiffe Pacha, General in the Army, Admiral of the Fleet, and Governor of the Soudan, from Philæ to the furthest possessions of the Pacha of Egypt. He looks like a man capable of being all this and more, as he possesses a fine figure, a good face, set off with a remarkably fair complexion, and a beautifully trimmed moustache and beard as black as jet. These advantages were assisted by the handsomest Asiatic dress I have seen—a suit of dark blue cloth, richly embroidered, red and gold tunic waistcoat, and full sleeves of pink silk and gold, silk stockings, a magnificent scarf round his waist, tarboosh, diamond star, and several gold chains. On his right hand sat Ali Bey Hassib, the Governor of Berber, and a few other grandees sat near him, in full costume."

The Governor of the Soudan treated the English party as though they had been angel visitors.—They asked him to allot them a space on which to pitch their tents,—he presented them "with a capital house most pleasantly situated among oranges, bananas, and pomegranates, in a garden on a high bank of the river next door to the Pacha's harems."—He placed his own boat at their disposal; also a stud of thirty camels to meet them at Berber.—He volunteered to despatch a dromedary post with their letters to Assouan.—"A somewhat awful personage clothed in red jacket and boots, and bearing many pistols," was appointed to open them a free passage through the crowds that thronged the bazaar.—All the nobility, gentry, and clergy of Khartoum were of one accord. Sundry European visitors called.—

"Scarcely had they departed when we received a large basket of figs, bananas, pomegranates, and cream-fruit—the last most delicious to the taste, as might be expected from its name. With it came the following letter:

"My Lord,—I hope you will accept a little fruits from the garden of your servants, minister of the Catholic Church, or rather from your garden in this city.—YOUR SERVANTS, EMMANUEL PEDEMONTE."

"Khartoum, December 26th."
Then, Ali Bey Hassib, the Governor of Berber, sent for our traveller; civilly offering to accompany the party to Berber, and to show them everything worth seeing on the road,—placing his house, camels, &c., at their disposal. Rumour, it turned out, had heralded their arrival with more than usual pomp and pretension.—

"Among other veracious statements, it was affirmed that a gentleman, with his harem, was known to be on the road, who was a Pasha with three tails; that he was adorned with three diamond stars on each breast and neck, and prodigious gold epaulettes on each shoulder."

In short, the reception of the English family appears to have been a thorough case of "enthusiasm," as the American journalists would describe it.—

"The inhabitants [of Khartoum, continues Mr. Melly in a subsequent page] are thirty thousand in number, including the military—they are divided into Mahometans, Christians, and Jews; the former are an immense majority of the population, and worship in their mosques—they are particularly unenlightened, and their priests are not much better. The latter number about fifty. They comprise the entire community attached to the Roman Catholic missions, possess three priests, have a chapel for the performance of religious worship, as well as a school for the preparation of converts, and the instruction of the rising generation of their co-religionists. The Jews are about a dozen. The members of the three religions live together very amicably. * * * Much activity prevails in the neighbourhood in boat-building; the vessels constructed being chiefly long, open boats for navigating the Nile. They are usually built of palm-wood, but are very clumsy contrivances. The

principal portion of their trade consists in the produce of their gardens and fields, which are extremely productive. The bazaars consist of four covered and four uncovered streets; the former are the finest shops, and are filled with articles of merchandise of very various character, among which figure Manchester prints, Sheffield knives and scissors on cards, and Staffordshire potteries: the uncovered streets are mostly booths, in which are sold senna, lichens, and various herbs and grasses. The merchants here export gum-arabic, galls, senna, castor-oil, and large quantities of ivory on camels to Keroski, after conveying them down the Nile to Berber."

The English ladies passed their time not unprofitably in woman's dearest occupation (as Mrs. Ellis will bear us out in asserting),—to wit, "paying morning calls."

"My mother and sister called on Madame Latifé Pacha, who received them very handsomely in her new residence adjoining our garden. She is lady-like and pretty; and was becomingly dressed in a tight Greek jacket, covered with gold-lace, and full blue silk trousers. She showed them over her house, which is the only well-built one in the country, gave them coffee in the usual gold filigree cups, which shared their admiration with the embroidered napkins, table-covers, and velvet work, that had been executed by herself. She did not appear to be very young—about twenty—was tall, and remarkably playful."

"We were constantly employed," adds Mr. Melly in the next page,

"in receiving and paying visits. Every one called to pay his parting compliments, and we could not be outdone in such civility. Sometimes we had little remembrances, and sometimes gave them—one trifle in this way created a sensation throughout the entire civilized community. The apothecary gave us two chairs, and we returned the gift with forty potatoes; the fame of this vegetable quickly brought us more applicants than we could supply."

The visit to Berber affords many agreeable pictures. The following long anecdote, whether founded on fact or in fancy, might be not inopportunistically printed by way of note to Mr. Milnes's dulcet versified recommendation of the true joys of the harem.—

"While at the Governor's divan we heard some extraordinary stories of our obliging friend, Latifé Pacha. * * When his Excellency left Cairo, he took with him a young Greek lady of respectable parents, who had been his wife's intimate friend and companion, and was neither a slave nor in any way related to him. He was also accompanied by a young man whom he had adopted, and who went by the name of Ibreen Latifé. While passing through Berber, he took a fancy to one of Ali Bey Hassib's wives, whom he asked for, and as that gentleman had at the time a larger stock than he wanted, he at once offered to spare one for his friend. He carried her off to Khartoum, where he had been only a few weeks, when he married his adopted son to the fair Greek, with more than usual ceremony; and all parties, as is the custom of the country, lived very comfortably in the same harem. About two months ago, two of the attendants of the harem came to him with a long story about his Greek daughter-in-law and a purveyor in the army, whom they had seen together in the garden of the harem. The instant he heard it, Latifé Pacha ordered in six of his Janissaries and the male delinquent. The latter he charged with the offence, and without listening to his assertions of innocence, condemned him to be shot. At first the Janissaries refused to sacrifice the officer, but the Pacha, mad with rage, insisted on his immediate execution, and one of the men shot him in the neck. He fell wounded and was then thrown into the Nile. Latifé, accompanied by this Janissary, now hurried into the garden of the harem, and sent for the Greek lady, who was actually at that moment with her husband. The instant she came she was shot, and her body cast into the river. After this summary justice, his excellency appeared satisfied, but was evidently not quite at his ease. His appetite fell off, and he could not sleep. He now thought, for the first time, of making some inquiries respecting the affair, and consulted a Turk at Khartoum, who was eminent for his sagacity. On hearing the whole of the case, the Turk assured

him that he not only had been too hasty in forming his judgment, from the only testimony of the guilt of the parties that had been submitted to him, but that the lady, being neither his wife nor his slave, he had no right to take her life. The Pacha became extremely dissatisfied with himself, particularly when further inquiry assured him of the untrustworthiness of the accusers of his unfortunate victims. He recompensed the five Janissaries who had refused to execute his sanguinary commands: the other suddenly disappeared, and was never more heard of. But the husband—the reader will naturally ask—what became of the poor young man? how could he ever get over such a blow to his happiness as this atrocious murder of his lovely bride? It is supposed that he got over it with the usual indifference to emotion of a Turk, for very shortly afterwards he received another wife, and not a word was said about the poor Greek. The fact was officially notified to Ali Bey Hassib, so there seems no reason for doubting the story."

There was a mesmeric exhibition at Berber, which appears to have puzzled our tourist to the point of leaving him undecided whether to describe it in jest or in earnest. We have glimpses of other strange and Eastern things:—and shortly after this point of the narrative is reached comes a notice of the sudden calamity referred to—the death in the little caravan.

"Like Abraham, in similar circumstances, we sent to the chiefs of the village to request a place in their cemetery: expressing their sympathy with our sorrow, they immediately desired us to take our choice, and then guided us to the spot, which was about two miles from the river. It was indeed a dreary walk; the sky was dark, the wind blew the fine sand in clouds around us, and we could only see a few yards in advance. After selecting the ground, the inhabitants of the village prepared the tomb, and were found assembled near it in crowds of all ages, when we again approached to lay the loved form in the deep grave they had dug. After reading the funeral service, according to our English customs, we distributed alms, out of respect to Arab custom. With these people, charity is not confined to the moment of interment; but for months, and even years after, on Friday (the Mahometan Sabbath), the relations of the deceased attend at the grave to keep it in repair, and give food and money to the poor, who go there as the surest place to obtain assistance; and it is for the purpose of sheltering such persons, that the small mosques and buildings often found in such localities, are erected. The cemeteries are always respected—indeed, are held as sacred among these wild, untutored people as among ourselves; so much so are they in public opinion, that when setting out on a journey, the Nubians frequently deposit near them their valuables. The place is not inclosed, and we often beheld in the cemeteries a collection of household goods, pitchers, &c., suspended from a tree, or laid near a grave, the vicinity of which was a sufficient protection during the absence of the owner. During our five days' detention here, the guides had behaved very well, paying daily visits, and making kind inquiries at our tent; but now the second guide refused to proceed without his brother, whose return was not expected in less than seven days, and even threatened to take us back to Berber, alleging, as his reason, that his engagement no longer held good. Our servants expressed their indignation at his conduct in such unequivocal terms, that his resolution, if he ever entertained it, began to waver, and it presently became evident that he had changed his mind altogether. We showed a determined indifference to his opinion; the camels were collected and brought into the encampment before dark; the packages were prepared, the burthens adjusted, and when, at sunrise, everything was ready for a start, he, without further demur, placed himself at the head of the caravan. Slowly and sadly we climbed the steep bank, and wound our way through the thicket of doum palms which, a short time since, we had entered with feelings so very different. We made a circuit to behold once more the burying-ground. How desolate it looked in the grey of the morning, with its neat graves, with their dark headstones and mounds, neat and sprinkled over with snow-white, quartz pebbles. Before us lay a flat

plain, over which a few stunted mimosas were scattered, and here and there we observed that the sand was shaded grey and white by the *débris* of the quartz rocks, which in several places rose to a great height, in grotesque shapes, resembling ruins; one even was named to us as a temple. In the distance were two purple hills, standing by themselves, so unlike in colour to anything else in the landscape, that they did not seem to belong to it. * * Nothing could exceed the considerate attention of our own Arab servants; to have lost a traveller, whilst under their care, was a great blow to them, and it was the first time they had been visited by such a misfortune. The dragoman especially took the most tender care of all of us; sometimes on the march dropping behind out of hearing of our conversation, sometimes striving to counsel, often endeavouring to amuse. He told me stories illustrative of Arab manners and traditions, and kept guard at night over our tent and water; in short, he did everything that could in any way promote the comfort of his charge."

It is satisfactory to add, that the care and courtesy of the Eastern attendants of the English family in affliction seem not to have slackened till the end of the sad journey.

Enough, we think, has been said to recommend this book, and the tone and the temper of its writer. We gather from Mr. Melly's journals that he is young. Remembering how severely we have suffered when abroad from the thoughtless freaks and "sporting propensities" of the English boy which bring the English man into discredit,—we are glad to call attention to such an evidence as this book affords, that the young may carry forth with them good feeling and good sense as well as animal spirits, and exhibit that power to think, to compare and to act, which ought to distinguish our countrymen, whatever be their age,—if the reputation of England abroad and at home is to be sustained as a reality, and not as an empty and idle tradition.

Memoirs and Adventures of Sir John Hepburn. By James Grant. Blackwood & Sons.

THE Thirty Years' War has not fared well in literature. One of the finest subjects for an historical pen—including the topics of war, philosophy, and European policy, and illustrated by many famous names—has been left comparatively undiscussed. Schiller's work is a feeble performance;—the subject was not one that suited the poet's idealizing mind. There have been some good biographies of some of the leading heroes in various languages:—but we do not know of any consecutive history of that famous time fit to be compared with Robertson's 'Charles the Fifth' or Napier's 'Peninsular War.'

The volume before us contains little matter that can be called original. It is the biography of Sir John Hepburn,—one of that class of Scottish soldiers of fortune immortalized in the fictitious person of *Dugald Dalgetty*. Mr. Grant, in the usual biographic spirit, greatly exaggerates the importance of his hero. One might suppose from his eulogies that Hepburn was a Scottish worthy fit to be ranked with the long line of heroes from the Montroses down to the Moores and Abercrombies. We cannot see, after reading Mr. Grant's case made on his behalf, that Sir John Hepburn has a special claim to a particular biography. No great historical incident is emphatically associated with his memory,—and he does not come under the list of generals or that of statesmen. Mr. Grant has raked up from various quarters a great deal of matter to illustrate the adventures of the Scottish followers of Gustavus Adolphus; but he seems to have composed his work as fast as he got his facts, for it is put together in a patchwork style,—not artistically disposed. It has the literary merit, however, of putting a great

deal of matter into a small space, though it does not give any important historical conclusions, nor read with graphic and picturesque effect. Subjects nearer home, and presenting actualities that Mr. Grant could more easily realize than the battle-fields of the seventeenth century, would suit his pen better.

Neither do we place much confidence in Mr. Grant as an historical authority. We were somewhat amused by finding him interpose a page from De Foe's 'Memoirs of a Cavalier,'—calling it "that somewhat apocryphal work." Further on (p. 98), Mr. Grant thus delivers his critical dictum on De Foe's historical novel. "In this remarkable work (which, though erroneous in many parts, Harte, in his Life of Gustavus, considers veritable) everything is related with an air of candour and truth which is very perplexing, and almost impossible to mistake for genuine. Now it is generally ascribed to Defoe." Why, then, does Mr. Grant call it elsewhere "that somewhat apocryphal work"? Another sign of Mr. Grant's weakness as an historical authority is, his constant reliance on Harte's 'Gustavus Adolphus.' That writer is one of the worst biographers in the language.

The class to which Sir John Hepburn belonged has been sufficiently painted in the 'Memoirs of a Cavalier' and, as we have said, in the 'Legend of Montrose.' He was a Scottish adventurer, who acted in the manner of a kindred spirit,—

Why then the world's mine oyster,
Which I with sword will open.

Though a Roman Catholic, he used his sword in the service of Gustavus Adolphus, "the bulwark of the Protestant cause;"—and on quarrelling with that hero, he passed into the service of the Imperialists. A soldier of fortune, and a brave one,—a valiant *sabreur*, with a spice of Scottish chivalry—such was Hepburn. The character, as our military annals attest, has been no uncommon one. If Hepburn had written his own memoirs and adventures, they might have been interesting; but narrated in the historical form, they are tame enough. Here and there we get a few glimpses of stirring scenes, that make us wish for a De Foe to record them. Here is one of these:—

"Commanded by the Counts Schomberg and Montecuculi, Teuffenbach and Herberstein, the Imperialists (those ferocious bands which so cruelly ravaged all Brandenburg and Pomerania) were all under arms to the number of ten thousand men, and the whole line of embattled wall that girt the city was bright with the glitter of their helmets; while pike-heads, the burnished barrels of muskets, and sword-blades, were seen incessantly flashing in the sunshine, when for a moment the smoke of the cannon and firearms was blown aside. Relying on their native bravery, the defence of the *weakest* point was assigned to a regiment of Irish musketeers, led by Walter Butler, a gallant cavalier of the noble house of Ormond. In the evening, Hepburn and other officers accompanied the King, who approached somewhat too near the town to reconnoitre, for a party sallied forth and fired on them. Lieutenant Munro, of Munro's regiment, was shot in the leg, below his cuisses; and Maximilian Teuffel, baron of Gienersdorf and colonel of the Life Guards, was wounded in the arm. Gustavus, says Munro, made 'a great moane for him, alleging he had no help then but of Hepburne,' a body of whose musketeers, led by his major, John Sinclair, repelled the sally, driving in the Imperialists under cover of their cannon; and, after capturing a lieutenant-colonel and captain, made a lodgment on high ground, where, covered by the grey head-stones and grassy wall of an old churchyard, they could securely enfilade and sweep the enemy's works in flank. Immediately on this being effected, Gustavus called Captain Gunter of Hepburn's regiment. 'Put on a light corslet,' said he, 'draw your sword, (officers generally carried a half-pike,) take a serjeant and twelve other good fellows with you; wade through the graff, ascend to

the top of yonder wall, and see if men can be commodiously lodged between the outer rampart of the town and the inner stone wall.' While twelve pieces of heavy cannon opened a fire upon the Guben gate, the twelve Scottish soldiers performed this dangerous service, and their captain returned with a favourable report, escaping the shower of bullets that greeted his approach; so, everything being prepared, at five o'clock on the afternoon of Palm Sunday, the 3rd April, the King ordered a general assault. Previous to this, Hepburn and other brave cavaliers expressed a wish to throw aside their armour, which was somewhat cumbersome, the suits worn by mounted officers being nearly complete. 'Nay,' said Gustavus; 'he that loves my service will not hazard his life out of pure gaiety. If my officers are killed, who then shall command my soldiers?' Ordering all to retain their armour, to have their fascines and scaling-ladders prepared, and, when the gun-batteries fired a grand salvo against the walls, to advance to a general assault, under cover of the smoke, he called to both Sir John Hepburn and Sir James Lumsden of Invergelgie by name, and added:—'Now, my valiant Scots, remember your brave countrymen who were slain at New Brandenburg!' A trumpet sounded. The whole Swedish artillery poured a general salvo upon the enemy's works, while from every point of their approaches the musketeers poured volley after volley—for platoon-firing was one of the supposed improvements of the age; and while the Imperial cannon, muskets, pistolettes, and arquebuses-à-croc vomited a cloud of fire and dense white smoke, with bullets of every size—lead, iron, and brass—from the walls, parapets, and palisades, from casemate and cavalier, the brave Scottish Brigade with the green banners rushed on with levelled pikes to storm the Guben gate. Sir John Hepburn and Colonel Lumsden, side by side, led them on. They both bore lighted petards, to burst open the gates. These military engines are of gun-metal, and hold about twenty pounds of powder, the vent of which is secured by a thick piece of plank, which is hung to the gate by an iron hook. Hepburn and Lumsden resolutely advanced, hung their petards, and retired a pace or two: the engines burst, and blew the strong barrier to a thousand fragments. And now the bullets poured through the gap thick as a hailstorm; for, charged to the muzzle, two pieces of Austrian cannon swept the approach, and made tremendous havoc among the dense ranks of the Scots Brigade, forming absolute lanes through them. While Munro's regiment crossed the wet ditch, among mud and water which came up to their gorgets, and, boldly planting their ladders, clambered over the sloping bastions, under a murderous fire, storming the palisades at point of sword and push of pike, Gustavus, with the blue and yellow Swedish brigades, all officered by Scottish cavaliers, fell sword in hand upon that quarter which was defended by the gallant Butler with his Irishmen, who made a noble and resolute defence, fighting nearly to the last man around him. The Green Scots Brigade still pressed desperately to gain the strong Guben gate, 'the valorous Hepburne leading on the pikes, and, being advanced within a half-pike's length of the door, was shot above the knee that he was lame of before.' Finding himself struck—"Bully Munro," he cried jocularly to his old friend and fellow-student, whose soldiers had so gallantly carried the outer palisades—"bully Munro, I am shot!" A major advancing to take his place was shot dead, and, with the blood streaming from their wounds, the soldiers were falling fast on every side, till even 'the stubborn pikemen' wavered for a moment; upon which Lumsden and Munro, each at the head of his own regiment, having their helmets closed, and half pike in their hands, cheered on their men, and shoulder to shoulder, led the way. 'My hearts!' exclaimed Lumsden, brandishing his weapon—"my brave hearts, let's enter!" "Forward!" cried Munro: 'advance pikes!' and the gate was stormed in a twinkling, the Austrians driven back, their own cannon turned on them, and fired point blank, blowing their heads and limbs into the air. Munro, in his narrative, says that by this time excess of pain, and his sight becoming faint, had compelled Hepburn to retire; but another account tells us distinctly that he and Lumsden entered the town together, slaying the Austrians on every hand; and that to every cry of—"Quarter! quarter!" their soldiers

replied—"New Brandenburg! Remember New Brandenburg!" One Scottish pikeman slew eighteen Imperialists with his own hand; and Lumsden's regiment alone captured *nine* pair of colours, which so pleased Gustavus that he told this brave cavalier of Fife to ask whatever he wished that a king could bestow, and he should have it. Led by Major Sinclair, the fifty of Hepburn's musketeers who were in the churchyard now forced their way into a street of the town, where they were suddenly charged by a regiment of cuirassiers; but, retiring a few paces, they drew up with their backs to a wall, and by a brisk fire compelled the horse to retreat. Hepburn's brigade pressed on from the Guben gate through one street, which was densely filled with Imperial troops, who contested every foot of the way, while General Sir John Banier scoured another with his brigade. Twice the Imperialists bent a parley; but amid the roar of the musketry, the boom of the cannon from bastion and battery, with the uproar, shouts, and yells in every contested street and house, the beat of the drum was unheard. Still the combat continued, the carnage went on; and still the Scots Brigade advanced in close column of regiments, shoulder to shoulder, like moving castles, the long pikes levelled in front, while the rear ranks of musketeers volleyed in security from behind. The veteran Imperialists, 'hunger and cold beaten soldiers,' met them almost foot to foot and hand to hand, with a bravery which, however indomitable, fell far short of the gallant Irish who fought under the same banner. The stern aspect of Tilly's soldiers excited even the admiration of their conquerors; for their armour was rusted red with winter storms, and dented with sword-cuts and musket-balls; their faces seamed with scars, and bronzed by constant exposure in every kind of weather; but they were forced to give way, and a frightful slaughter ensued. The savage Dutch also too well remembered New Brandenburg, and butchered all who fell into their hands. At last Walter Butler, on being shot in the arm, and pierced by a halbert, fell; the remnant of his Irishmen gave way, and then resistance ceased on every side. Schomberg, Montecuculi, Teuffenbach, and Herberstein mounted, and, with a few cuirassiers, fled by a bridge towards Glogau, leaving four colonels, thirty-six junior officers, and three thousand soldiers dead in the streets—fifty colours, and ten baggage-waggons laden with plate; and so precipitate was their retreat that their caissons blocked up the passage to the bridge,—while cannon, tumbrils, chests of powder and ball, piles of dead and dying soldiers, with their ghastly and distorted visages, and battered coats of mail, covered with blood and dust, smoke, mud, and the falling masonry of the ruined houses, made up a medley of horrors, and formed a barriade that obstructed the immediate pursuit of the foe."

It would have been a better plan for Mr. Grant to have enlarged his work, and made it *Memoirs of the Scottish Officers who served in the Thirty Years' War*. He quotes works showing that the best names of Scotland are to be found in Sweden:—Leslies, Gordons, Montgomeries, Duffs, Hamiltons, &c. &c. Several of the Swedish nobility are of Scottish descent;—but, on the other hand, how many Scotch families were originally sprung from the Northmen?

Mr. Grant has capacity for collecting historical matter; and in his future publications he should choose a subject that repays research and is somewhat novel in its materials. He would do well, also, to make a final choice between composing works of history or works of fiction. A novelist does not make a good historian,—and *vice versa*, an investigator and compiler rarely makes a good novelist. In fiction, the writer must aim constantly at effect, and work by invention,—in history, he must achieve his object by narration of facts laboriously collected, and judiciously investigated. Hence there is an opposite exercise of the mental faculties. A man who might do well in either pursuit would not succeed in both. The poetry of Lamartine has been found to give too much colour to his histories. In the same way, his-

tory in the hands of Sir Walter Scott was too anecdotal, and too full of mere individualities. Smollett's historical performances were written with a party prejudice, enhanced by the fanciful workings of a novelist's intellect. Numerous cases might be quoted to prove our position.—We should state, in conclusion, that this volume is remarkably well printed,—in a very neat style of typography, highly creditable to the Edinburgh press.

GREAT EXHIBITION.

Official Description and Illustrated Catalogue.

[Second Notice.]

WE wandered, a few days since, with an especial object, through the western nave of the Crystal Palace—shorn now of its industrial glories,—and turned into the Machinery Department, where a few weeks previously we had, amidst the din of driving wheels and flying shuttles, studied with much interest the numerous examples of the mechanical skill of this country.

How widely different was now the scene! Few of the beautiful machines which then appeared to possess an automatic power, labouring ever diligently in producing articles for the use of society, remained perfect. The mighty agency at whose bidding the whole was impelled was dead. The fires in the boiler-house were extinguished,—the boilers were cold,—and all was ruin. Member had been separated from member,—joints were torn apart,—screws were loosened,—and piles of dead iron alone remained to indicate some beautiful combination which, when we examined it at a former visit, appeared to mimic life. The vast hall was not silent; but the noise was that of hammers, which, with now and then the sound of falling metal, told that the process of dismantling was rapidly going forward. Appold's cascade no longer illustrated the wondrous power of a centre-flying force. A group of eager Italians were around it, carefully studying every section, as the pump was in the act of being taken to pieces,—anxious to comprehend its mysteries. These men are about to transport the machine to some of their own marshes,—having become its purchasers. On referring to the Catalogue we find that the vessel or disc containing the curved vanes holds but a gallon of water; but this was discharged 1,400 times in a minute by the centrifugal force generated by the rapidly revolving fans. In this machine was illustrated one of the most important laws of motion, and the application of it to an important end. There were other machines of a similar description; and the same principle was applied to the purposes of ventilation,—although we are not aware that it has been found as effective as some other methods which have been for many years employed in our collieries. We could have wished that some good drawings of this centrifugal pump had been inserted in the Catalogue,—together with a careful description of its arrangements. The mechanical drawings which are given are of very considerable value, and most of them are executed with great care,—forming a most important section. We do not intend to imply that the wood-cut and other illustrations of machinery are sufficiently detailed to satisfy the engineer or the mechanist;—but they communicate enough of the principles involved to enable either to judge of the merits of the construction, and they are excellent records of the machinery of the Exhibition to those who desire a popular account.

Those who directed with any attention their investigations to the numerous very beautiful contrivances which were exhibited in the Machinery Department will find the Catalogue, with its important descriptions contributed by the

exhibitors and with the notes of the annotators, of the utmost service in aiding them duly to appreciate the nature of the several inventions. As a striking example of this, we have but to refer to the drawings and descriptions of the great hydraulic press employed in raising the Britannia Tubular Bridge,—the various weaving machines,—the very perfect tools by Messrs. Whitworth & Co.,—the apparatus connected with railway operations,—and many of the engineering and building contrivances. All these are represented with strict fidelity.

Our space will not allow of our examining each Section in detail; since wherever we open we find subjects of greater or less interest to fix attention.—We must pass over that Section of the Catalogue which relates to Naval Architecture and Military Engineering:—under which head are also arranged guns and weapons,—including numerous very fine examples of sword manufacture, rifles and guns.

Agricultural and Horticultural Machines and Implements form a very fully illustrated and well-described Section of the Catalogue. The editor justly remarks, that in no other country of late years has agriculture been rendered so largely an object of experiment as in the United Kingdom,—and in none other do the requisite amount of capital and the supply of means for such experiments, proportionately to the area of the soil occupied, exist. The mechanical division of the soil has of late excited a very large share of attention; and in connexion with draining operations, the results are shown in the number of machines and implements which have been exhibited,—and which are well illustrated in these pages.

Class X. of the Exhibition formed a very important, and somewhat varied, group,—or rather set of groups:—clocks and watches in great variety—globes and orreries—optical instruments, as telescopes and microscopes—numerous philosophical appliances, as barometers, thermometers, electrical machines, and magnets—electric telegraph and electrical clocks—photographs—much chemical apparatus—a large display of musical instruments—and not a few for surgical purposes. On all these points the Catalogue furnishes much information. It is not a little curious to examine the articles thus brought together. We have Shepherd's electrical clock, involving some of the nicest points of science,—and Brook's self-registering magnetometer, in which a pencil of light is made to trace out—indeed to point—every movement of a magnet under the influence of the changes in terrestrial magnetism,—almost immediately associated with Count Dunin's steel man—or as it is called, mechanical figure. This is a rare example of patience and ingenuity. Upwards of 7,000 nicely adjusted pieces of steel are made to slide one upon the other,—so that the figure can be enlarged or diminished in size. The advantage offered by this piece of ingenuity is, “to facilitate the exact fitting of garments, more especially in cases where great numbers are to be provided for, as in the equipment of an army, or providing clothing for a distant colony.”—Again, we find immediately associated with the present group the “Tempest Prognosticator,”—in which advantage is taken of the circumstance that leeches do during the period of electrical development climb out of the water to the top of the vessel in which they may be confined;—and not far from this the really valuable Typhoidometer of Col. Lloyd, by which the mariner is enabled to determine with precision the position of his ship relatively to the centre of a storm. Adopting the carefully deduced law of Col. Sir William Reid, it is easy with this little apparatus, not only to avoid a storm, but to make it

subservient in many cases to the ship's ultimate course.

The descriptions furnished by the various exhibitors of electrical telegraphs are very full,—and the illustrations, as usual, are good. By carefully reading the pages devoted to this subject, the varieties of telegraphs will be understood; and—as they are all here brought together and described by the instructors themselves—more perfectly than by reading any detached explanations of these very important instruments. The daguerreotypes and calotypes, and the apparatus employed in producing these pictures—of which a large variety was exhibited—are carefully catalogued and described. We have seldom met with so large an amount of valuable information on the application of science to the useful purposes of man—and on the appliances which have been devised for extending the sphere of human knowledge—as is afforded in this division of these important volumes.

We may apply a similar remark to the Catalogue of the Musical Instruments. This brings the first volume to a close; and we are bound to declare our conviction that it will be found to afford an unusual amount of information on all the points connected with the Classes of which it treats,—information which could not have been brought together under any other circumstances than those which have attended this Exhibition.

The Second Volume embraces all the varieties of Textile Manufacture:—and on the subjects of cotton, flax and woollen weaving, calico printing and dyeing, we find much novel information. We could have desired a larger number of plates of the designs ornamenting the woven and printed goods,—as they would have furnished a record of the present state of the art of design in this country, and we should have had the satisfaction of marking the progress of improvement. A considerable advance has been made since the establishment of the Schools of Design; but from the circumstance that the young men who are educated in those schools have no knowledge imparted to them of the peculiar character of the particular material to which the design is to be adapted—or of the difficulties that beset its manufacture—there is not that harmony which should exist between the design and the material and its uses. There is yet much to be done for the education of our artisans.

The Classes devoted to Woven Materials do not require any particular notice from us:—but passing from these to the Catalogue of Skins and Furs, Class XVI., we have been much instructed by the information given on the furs exhibited. The beautiful case of furs in the western main avenue will be well remembered. The Catalogue gives a complete account of all these varieties of fur;—particularly those which are employed in this and those used in other countries—the quantities of each imported—and the amounts which are exported again.

The extensive and intelligible Class of General Hardware comprehends 810 exhibitors;—and many of these were so on a most extensive scale. In this class we were enabled to trace the progress of metal manufacture from the crude metal up to the most elaborate work of Art. We had at the foot of the scale the pig of iron,—and at its top the ornamental castings of the Coalbrook Dale and other works. We had also the cake and sheet of copper,—and every stage of conversion until it became an article of use or of ornament. The specimens of hammered copper exhibited by Messrs. Tyler & Son were remarkable examples of the skill of the British workman:—the plain sheet of copper being hammered into a tall vase of the most beautiful

form. Many examples of hammered brass and of brass tubing were equally curious illustrations of metal manufacture. The ornamental castings adorning the stoves and other works show a very marked advance; but much of the ornamentation was inappropriate,—and often it was considerably overlaid. Many very ingenious gas stoves were exhibited. The particularities of all these are fully recorded in the Catalogue. The notes appended to the more important examples of hardware exhibited are of a thoroughly practical, and many of them of a most curious and instructive, character,—particularly those which relate to the staple manufactures of Birmingham.

The works in the Precious Metals and Jewellery were among the most attractive points of the Exhibition. The history of the gems which were exhibited, commencing with the Koh-i-noor and ending with the emeralds in the matrix and the turquoises from Arabia Petrea in all their modes of occurrence, would be instructive. Much of the desired information is furnished by the work under notice,—but much more might be written on the subject. There is, however, in the Catalogue a very interesting account of the Koh-i-noor:—which was according to Hindú legend the property of Karna, king of Anga, who was slain about 5,000 years since, or 3,000 years before Christ. To attempt any description of the works in gold or in silver would be vain in such space as we can spare. Many of the best designs are illustrated in this Catalogue.

Glass and Porcelain formed important Classes in the Exhibition,—and will be found to be the subjects of interesting sections in the Catalogue. All the processes of the manufacture of crown, plate and flint glass are fully given. The same may be said of the section devoted to the Ceramic Art: from common earthenware up to the most delicate porcelain and the finest application of the so-called Parian and statuary porcelain which is now so pleasingly employed for multiplying the finest works of Art. The Furniture and Papier Mâché exhibited very fully realized the remarks of the Editor, who says:—"The appearance of the entire class bespeaks a high degree of national prosperity; and, while displaying the skill and taste of the manufacturer, indicates not less distinctly the wealth and domestic refinement of those for whose use the greater majority of the articles exhibited are unquestionably intended."—The manufactures in mineral substances were in like manner highly illustrative of the increasing refinement which marks the advance of wealth. In this section of the Catalogue the annotations are particularly directed to descriptions of the localities producing the various ornamental and building stones, and to their geological character.—A series of miscellaneous matters are comprehended in the Class which we have not named, in many of which will be discovered much novel information.—The section of Fine Arts concludes the catalogue of our home productions:—and this is very fully illustrated.

The latter portion of the second volume is devoted to the British Colonies and Dependencies. On this division of the Catalogue we have already sufficiently remarked. The third volume is devoted entirely to Foreign States:—and to us as a manufacturing nation this volume is even more important than the other two. It furnishes the merchant and manufacturer with a copious Trades Directory to all the great producers of the old and new continents. It gives intelligence in connexion with the exhibition of peculiar manufactures—of the natural history, the locality, and the amount produced—of substances employed,—such as we could not by any other means obtain. This is

particularly the case with the Austrian Section of the Catalogue. The notes are most extensive,—and convey information of the greatest importance on every variety of articles exhibited within the section of the Exhibition building devoted to that extensive Empire.—As an example of this we select at random the following information on the production of silk in Austria.—

"Of all the states of Europe, the Austrian monarchy possesses the most abundant supply of silk. The production of silk is conducted on the most important scale in the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom. Next in order of importance comes the Tyrol. The same business is also carried on in the military frontier, Görz and Gradisca, and also in Istria and Trieste, in Dalmatia and the south of Hungary. Trials have likewise been made in Lower Austria, Bohemia, and Carniola. The production of cocoons amounts, on an average, annually—

In Lombardy	to 250,000 cwt.
The Province of Venice	200,000 "
The Tyrol	20,000 "
The other provinces	12,000 "
Total	480,000 cwt.

Or, in round numbers, 500,000 cwt. The cocoons are prepared at the reeling establishments into raw silk. From the result of inquiries it would appear that Lombardy comprises 3,068 reeling establishments, which employ 79,500 workpeople, without taking into calculation the smaller establishments, which are not included in this enumeration. The entire production amounts to 2,512,000 Vienna lb.; and, since 12 lb. of cocoons yield 1 lb. of raw silk, there are required for this aggregate of raw silk 306,400 cwt. of cocoons. The quantity of cocoons required in excess of the quantity produced, an excess of very nearly 50,000 cwt. is covered by the production of the Venetian provinces, chiefly by that of Verona. Within the province of Venice the reeling establishments are pretty numerous, but of less extent. The nearest approximation to the truth in reference to this matter is obtained by taking the extent of the production at one-half of that in Lombardy. The remainder of the cocoons produced in the province undergo further preparation in Lombardy, and partly in the Tyrol also, whilst a portion of those obtained in Görz and Gradisca, as well as in Istria, are prepared in Venetian reeling establishments. The number and the performances of the reeling machines in the Tyrol are accurately known. In the year 1848, South Tyrol contained 559 of such reeling establishments. These employed 13,000 hands, and turned out 263,700 lb. of raw silk, from 31,900 Vienna cwt. of cocoons. The supply of cocoons required, beyond that furnished by the production of the country, was drawn from the Venetian provinces. The reeling establishments in the remaining provinces produce, conjointly, from 10,000 cwt. of cocoons, 75,000 Vienna lb. of raw silk. The whole production of raw silk obtained in the Austrian monarchy is about 4,108,700 lb., and the waste about 716,400 lb. The number of working hands employed in the reeling establishments is not less than 160,000 (or if their term of occupation be reduced to 270 days in the year, 30,000 only). Besides the products already enumerated, about 900 cwt. of cocoons are annually imported into Lombardy, principally from Switzerland and the neighbouring Italian States, and are prepared in the Lombard reeling establishments. The quantity of silk produced is thus increased to an aggregate of 4,116,200 lb."

The information afforded in connexion with the typography and printing contributed to the Exhibition from the Imperial Court and Government Printing Office at Vienna is of the most important character,—and will furnish very valuable information to all interested in the literary statistics of the Continent.

The industry of the commercial group of the German States designated as the Zollverein was strikingly shown in the extent and variety of manufactures which were exhibited. There was scarcely a branch of human industry which was not here fully represented. The contributions from the smaller States were

also numerous:—and to all these the Catalogue furnishes a comprehensive guide.

Holland and Belgium were contributors of all the varieties of Mineral and Vegetable produce of those countries,—and of the greater number of their manufactures.

It has been remarked that the French exhibition furnished an exemplification of the effects of Exhibitions of industrial products on the nature and quality of the articles produced. A survey of the departments in which were arranged with the most picturesque effect the French bronzes, works in the precious metals, jewellery, porcelain, and tapestry fully confirms this remark. The Catalogue enumerates varieties of industry which are peculiar and characteristic as showing the kind of industry that is called into existence by the habits of a people. The French section of the Catalogue is a very extensive one:—the descriptions are numerous, and the illustrations copious.—Switzerland, the Papal States, Tuscany, Sardinia, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Norway and Denmark, were respectively contributors of objects of much interest.—Russia made a magnificent display of her Mineral wealth, and also of her industrial products. The annotations in the Catalogue on the Russian contributions—particularly those connected with the Raw Produce—are full of important information:—and the illustrations of the works of Art and Art-manufacture are numerous.

Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Tunis, and China were among the attractive points of the Exhibition; and though nearly all their productions have now disappeared, the Catalogue furnishes a permanent record of that interesting gathering. The contributions from Egypt have been munificently placed entire at the disposal of the Royal Commission, with a view to their preservation in some industrial museum.

The last Section of the Catalogue is devoted to the industrial productions of the United States of America. The American reaping machine has excited much and deserved attention;—and although the Glass contributions came late to the Exhibition, the remarkable freedom from colour of this material speedily drew attention to its excellent quality. It is manufactured from a sand entirely free of any colouring matter:—and is really a most important improvement in the character of flint glass. The forms of the American glass could not be admired, nor the workmanship praised:—the quality of colour—or rather its absence—was, however, sufficient to insure attention. We must refer to the Catalogue for descriptions of the various articles sent from our brethren of the United States:—showing a country rich in natural resources of which its inhabitants are rapidly learning to avail themselves.

Such is an analytical view of the 'Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue,' compiled and arranged, as we have said, amidst a complication of difficulties which greatly enhance the merit—though not the value—of the work. The descriptions furnished by the exhibitors were in nearly all cases, of necessity, to be altered before publication; and it was for some time, even after the opening of the Exhibition, difficult to fix the Class and Number to which many of the exhibitors belonged. Things were falsely named,—there was much grammatical confusion,—scientific terms were seldom correctly applied,—technical terms were frequently such as could not be understood—and these were often wrongly translated from the foreign returns made to the Editor. Amidst these and a thousand other difficulties Mr. Robert Ellis has steadily pursued his work:—and it cannot be denied that he has brought it to an issue for which he deserves all praise.

We do not mean to say that the work could not have been better done:—if the labour had to be again gone through, there is no doubt that many improvements might be effected. But under all the circumstances of the time and the occasion, we regard the Catalogue as worthy of the great phenomenon which it records. A work of permanent value and enduring interest has been produced:—and to all parties concerned it must be satisfactory to know that the labour which has been bestowed on it has not been in vain. To the philosopher, the manufacturer and the merchant, we repeat, this Catalogue must, for ever, prove an invaluable work of reference.

A Naturalist's Sojourn in Jamaica. By Philip Henry Gosse. Longman & Co.

How much of the Natural History of the World still remains to be written! Here we have a gentleman residing only a few months in a small district of a tropical island,—and producing an octavo volume with abundance of new facts about new animals, and not a few about old ones. We have no sympathy with those naturalists of the old school who think that because Mr. Gray is unable to add more than one new species of stuffed mammal to the collection of the British Museum in the year, the study of Natural History is coming to an end. There are yet unexplored districts of the earth's surface where new mammalia may be found. Even if these higher creatures should be exhausted, there are birds, reptiles and fishes to be described in abundance. But those who study natural history no longer confine themselves to the larger forms of the animal world:—amongst the molluscous articulate and radiate tribes of the Invertebrata they find as yet an inexhaustible supply of new forms. So with the vegetable kingdom. Where the naked eye ceases to be of service, the microscope unfolds a new world of animal and vegetable life to repeat and represent the first.

But forms alone are not the object of the studies of the naturalist. Nature moves as well as exists. The complex mass of organs which constitute an animal or a plant has an object in creation. Each plant and each animal has a relation at every stage of its growth to every other. All their functions and relations indicate order and harmony. Hence, the work of the naturalist can never be said to be completed until all the varied forms of the external world shall be understood in their intimate nature, objects and relations as component parts of a magnificent and beautiful whole. All who work earnestly and sincerely, whether in the description of new forms, the observation of habits, or the arrangement of the general relations of one living being to another, are contributing to this great end. Those departments of natural history, however, will always be most popularly interesting which give the results of general observations on either plants or animals, describing their forms and habits amidst the other objects in nature by which they are surrounded. Such a work is this by Mr. Gosse:—already well known to English readers by his 'Canadian Naturalist,' his 'Sketches of Birds in Jamaica,' and other works.

From Mr. Gosse's volume we learn incidentally that other pursuits than natural history led him to Jamaica:—but he seems to have lost no opportunity of acquainting himself with natural objects,—and whilst crossing the ocean his voyage was fruitful of interesting results. No sooner does the vessel touch the shore, than we find him scampering for miles along a sandy beach to delight his eye with here and there a new form of animal or of plant. Arrived in Jamaica, he speedily settles down:—and seems

to have carried on the work of a naturalist with great vigour.

In these pages we follow him from day to day amidst the beautiful scenery and new world of animal and vegetable life that Jamaica presents to the European eye. Everything which he sees and hears differs from what we are accustomed to in this country; and keenly alive to the peculiarities of all around him, he imparts the same interest to his reader. Mr. Gosse is not like some natural history writers who have an eye only for their own peculiar hobbies. He takes a long walk for the purpose of examining a fly or a fish; but the beauties of the walk itself interest him,—and numerous are the sketches of life and scenery in Jamaica which he thus gives us. Take the following account of a negro village as an example.—

"One cannot look on a little negro hamlet without being struck with its extreme picturesqueness. The peasants who commonly labour on the same estate usually have their huts congregated together, not by the side of a high road, but retired into some secluded nook, approachable through a narrow winding path. You might pass within a stone's throw of the village, and hardly be aware of its existence, except by the hogs which scamper away on the sight of a stranger into the bush, or the poultry that strut and pick about the vicinity. This love of seclusion is almost invariable, and is no doubt a habit inherited from 'slavery-time,' when it was an object to keep the domestic economy as much out of the way of Buckra as possible. If you purposely seek the collection of cabins, you will probably have some difficulty in threading the maze of Pinguins into which the original fence has spread. This plant (*Bromelia pinguin*) is very commonly cultivated as a fence, being absolutely impenetrable; when not in flower or fruit it can hardly be distinguished from the Pine-apple, but is more vigorous and formidable, the recurved spines with which the edges of the long leaves are set being exceedingly sharp, and inflicting terrible scratches. When flowering in March it is a beautiful object; the central leaves being of the most brilliant glossy vermilion, and the thick spike of blossom of a delicate pink-white. This is replaced by a dense head of hard woody capsules, not united into a compound succulent fruit as in the Pine-apple, but separate, though closely packed. They contain an acid juice, which is pleasant to moisten the lips or tongue, but is found to be acrid and caustic if used in any quantity. The picturesque beauty of which I have spoken as characterizing the peasants' hamlets does not depend on the habitations themselves; these are small huts, generally made of wattle, or hurdle-work, and thatched with the fronds of some of the Palms. But it is in the variety and grandeur of the various trees in which they are embowered. It so happens that the tropical trees most valued for their fruit are also eminently conspicuous for beauty. The Papaw, whose large fruit has the singular property of rendering tender the toughest meat with a few drops of its juice, and the Cocoa-nut which supplies meat and drink, are fine examples of tall and slender grace. The glossy evergreens of all the Citron tribe, from the great Shaddock to the little Lime,—how beautifully it throws out into relief the noble golden fruit, or serves as a ground for the delicately white blossoms, studding the dark trees like stars on a winter night's sky, as fragrant too as lovely! The Star-apple, with its party-coloured leaves, shining green on one surface, and on the other a bright golden bay, has an indescribable effect, as its mass of foliage, all quivering and dancing in the breeze, changes momentarily in a thousand points from the one hue to the other. But there are two other trees which help more than all the rest to produce the admired result. Both are of stately form and noble dimensions. The one is the Mango, which, though introduced at no very distant period, now grows almost everywhere, at least around every homestead, gentle or simple. It forms a towering, compact, conical head of foliage peculiarly dense and dark, through which no ray of the sun penetrates. He who has once seen the Mango growing in its own ample dimensions, will never mistake it for another tree, nor ever

forget the impression produced by its magnificent form and massive proportions. The other is the Bread-fruit; like the Mango, a foreigner made to feel himself at home. The negroes cultivate it more than the higher classes: I was myself disappointed in the fruit; it has a sort of woolliness not agreeable; but I bear willing testimony to the fine appearance presented by it when hanging by scores from the thick many-jointed twigs. The enormous leaves, eighteen inches in length and breadth, elegantly cut into fingers, and of a beautiful green, well set off the large depending fruit, and seem to suit its colossal dimensions. These are the grander features of the scene, which, mingled with other trees, form groves of many tinted foliage, and much variety of light and shadow. The under growth, however, is no less pleasing. The lively tender green of the Plantains and Bananas planted in regular avenues, the light tracery of the Yams, the Cho-chos, the Melons and Gourds, the numerous sorts of Peas, and other climbers, among which several species of Passion-flower throw their elegant foliage, magnificent blossoms, and grateful acid fruits over the branches of the trees,—the delicate forms of the Castor-oil tree and the Cassavas; the noble flower of the esculent Hibiscus or Okra—these are the ordinary, almost I might say universal, features of a Jamaican negro-garden; and when I add to these fine Convolvuli and Ipomæa of rainbow hues, the pride of our conservatories, and large white and yellow species of Echites, that, altogether unsought, trail in wild luxuriance about the fences,—I shall be justified in pronouncing the scene one of more than common loveliness, even in the grandeur and beauty of a tropical land."

Such descriptions will make many a reader almost long for a voyage to Jamaica; but our naturalist lets us into some of the secrets of domestic life which must be considered as drawbacks on a sojourn in that island. In dry weather troops of ants walk into the traveller's bed-room, to quench their thirst in his water-jug and hand-basin. Bats domicile in the walls of his house. "Lizards, lizards," says Mr. Gosse, are everywhere:—in the forests, the roads, the lanes, the outbuildings. Even when the stranger walks into the dwelling-house, the lizard still meets his eye. They are quite harmless, and very interesting:—still, not choice companions, especially in bed. Mosquitoes, too, must be regarded as very disagreeable companions,—not easy to be avoided.—

"These troublesome insects seem nearly equally annoying throughout the New World. I do not think them at all worse in Jamaica, than in Canada or Newfoundland, perhaps not so bad. In marshy places, even in England, the punctures of these minute tormentors (for Mosquitoes are merely Gnats) are as painful, and perhaps as numerous, as in many parts of Jamaica. Some situations are of course more subject to their presence than others. Blue-fields, situated on a rising ground, open and exposed to the invigorating sea-breeze, enjoys a remarkable immunity from them. The humid forest harbours them, especially in the mountains; and in many cases the roads are almost quite free from them, where if you step into the wood on either side though only a few paces, you would presently be surrounded by their shrill trumpets, and covered with their bites. There is a good deal of difference in the character of the wounds inflicted by different species: those that frequent the lowlands (*Culex pungenis*, for example) are of larger size, sing with a graver sound, and insert the proboscis often without any present pain, but a hard white tumour presently rises on the spot as large as a silver threepence, which itches intolerably, and remains attended with dull pain and tension, for many hours. The mountain Mosquitoes are generally very much smaller, *C. fasciatus*, for instance, a minute species; they are more pertinacious, associate in more numerous swarms, emit a sharp shrill hum, and produce a sudden twinge as they pierce the flesh, as if a spark of fire had fallen on it. A violent itching is the immediate result, but it soon goes off, leaves scarcely any perceptible tumour, and is soon forgotten. These, however, are more intolerable than the former, the recurrence of the spark-like

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prick at every moment, or rather all over the exposed parts of the person at the same moment, is too maddening to be endured; and it is almost impossible to face a phalanx of these tiny adversaries, where they are numerous, without some device for keeping them off. A fragment of the earthy nest of the Duck-ants (*Termites*) answers well for this purpose; being ignited, it continues to smoulder a considerable time, sending forth a large volume of smoke; this carried in the hand, and waved to and fro, is the most effective weapon against these winged warriors."

Mr. Richard Hill, a friend of Mr. Gosse, has contributed largely to this volume,—giving a great amount of interesting matter on various natural history topics. He seems to have studied the habits of the crocodile with greater attention than any other writer that we know of. From his own observations, he shows that Mr. Waterton is wrong in supposing that the crocodile swallows its food as soon as caught,—and maintains that the notion of its allowing it to putrify first is correct. It is well known that the crocodile is easily diverted in its course by the bark of the dog, which is employed for this purpose by those who have to cross rivers in which these animals dwell. It has been supposed that the crocodile seeks the dog for love of its flesh; but Mr. Hill gives the following more probable account of the phenomenon.—

"After burying the eggs in the soil, to be there matured by the sun, the female visits from time to time the place in which they are secreted, and, just as the period of hatching is completed, exhibits her eagerness for her offspring in the anxiety with which she comes and goes, walks around the nest of her hopes, scratches the fractured shell, and by sounds which resemble the bark of a dog, excites the half-extricated young to struggle forth into life. When she has beheld, with this sort of joy, fear, and anxiety, the last of her offspring quit its broken casement, she leads them forth into the plashy pools, away from the river, and among the thick underwood, to avoid the predatory visits of the father. In this season of care and of watchfulness over them, she is ferocious, daring, and morose, guarding with inquietude her young wherever they wander. She turns when they turn, and by whining and grunting, shows a particular solicitude to keep them in such pools only as are much too shallow for the resort of the full-grown reptile. When I was in Yacacia, a river district of that name, as many as forty had been discovered in one of these secret resorts; but in half an hour, when the boys who had found them out returned to visit their hiding-place, they saw only the traces of the coming and going of the watchful parent who had led them away to some further and safer retreat. In this period of their helplessness, the mother feeds them with her masticated food, disgorging it out to them as the dog does to its pups. In general it is rarely seen other than crouching with its belly to the earth, and crawling with a curvilinear motion; but at this time it may be observed firmly standing on its feet. This is the attitude of anger and attack; and its spring is quick, a sort of agile leap, by no means short in distance. During all this time of protection and dependence, is heard the voice, by which the young makes its wants known, and the parent assures its offspring of its superintendence. It is the *gaping bark of the dog*, and the *whining of the puppy*. From all these facts I take it that when the sound of the dog's bark is heard, the Caymans press to the spot from which it issues, agitated by two several passions,—the *females to protect their young*, and the *males to devour them*; and to this, and not to their predilection for the flesh of dogs, are we to ascribe the eagerness with which they scud away, agitated by that voice which in the one case is the *thrilling cry of danger*, and in the other, the *exciting announcement of food*."

We should state, in addition, that the work is neatly got up,—and contains several sketches of Jamaican scenery, as well as drawings of reptiles, fishes, and beasts of a novel kind, from the pencil of Mr. Gosse.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Observations on Baths and Washhouses: with an Account of their History, an Abstract of the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, their Applicability and Advantages to Provincial Towns, and a Description of those proposed to be erected at Maidstone, under the superintendence of the Authors. By Arthur Ashpitel and John Whitehead. A very brief summary—much too brief to merit its swelling title—of the causes which first suggested the establishment of baths and washhouses, and of the success which has hitherto attended the new institution. The chief object of the authors seems to be, —to make known their own private labours at Maidstone; but their little book contains facts and drawings which may nevertheless be useful at a distance.

The Wisdom and Beneficence of the Almighty as displayed in the Sense of Vision. By J. Wharton Jones.—This treatise obtained the Actonian prize of one hundred guineas for the present year,—and resembles in style of treatment the famous Bridge-water Treatises, especially Sir Charles Bell's volume on the 'Evidence of Design displayed in the Hand.' The book is entirely beyond the category of ordinary prize essays; but the nature of its origin is so far against it, that we doubt if it will be read as much as it deserves.

A Literal Translation of the Revelation of St. John, and an English Version of the same, as also of the Gospel of St. John and of the Epistles of St. John and St. Jude.—A Literal Translation of the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Hebrews, and an English Version of the same, as also of the Epistle to the Romans.—A Literal Translation of the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians, and an English Version of the same. By H. Heinfeffer.—These so-called literal translations are neither intelligible to an English reader nor faithful to the original Greek. What Mr. Heinfeffer's "definite rules of translation" are, we do not pretend to know; but if they lead him to such interpretations as he has here given, they are not worth much. It is rather amusing to find him defending a ridiculous blunder by referring to 'Donnegan's Lexicon' as his authority. The English versions are pretty much like our authorized version. Where they differ from it they generally differ for the worse. They not unfrequently contradict the literal translations.

Diamond Map of the Latin Syntax. By W. Hall.—A neat little synopsis of all the principal rules of Latin syntax, illustrated by suitable examples. It exhibits at one view the usages connected with each case of nouns; the exemplification being given on other pages, in order to serve as a better test of the pupil's knowledge,—who is to cite the rule applicable to each sentence.

A Practical Introduction to English Composition. By Robert Armstrong. Part I.—A book fully answering to its title. It is intended for schools, and will be found on trial very useful as a first book. It contains a clear and sufficient account of the construction of sentences, both simple and complex, and of the rules of punctuation; the whole being illustrated by well-chosen examples and followed up by directions for the composition of simple narrative. There is an abundance of exercises under every rule; and as they are all preceded by a model, the pupil will be able to do them without difficulty. But Mr. Armstrong has been careful not to make them too easy. Nobody can do them without some attention and thought. They are so adapted to the growing ability and increasing knowledge of the pupil as to ensure his improvement, and at the same time rather to interest than to dishearten him.

The Stepping-Stone to the French Language.—A spelling-book, phrase-book, and vocabulary all in one for sixpence.

Gregory of Nazianzum, a Contribution to the Ecclesiastical History of the Fourth Century. By Dr. Carl Ullman, translated by G. V. Cox, M.A.—Students of ecclesiastical history will find this an interesting and instructive work. It contains a full account of every stage of Gregory's career:—his residence as a student at Athens, his relations with Julian the Emperor, his public and private

life at Constantinople, and his character and death. The original is about twice the bulk of the translation, one half comprising a description of his theological opinions. This part, though nearly translated, is withheld for the present. Enough, however, is found in this volume to give the reader a very good idea of what Gregory was and did. Besides the strictly biographical details, there is a large amount of historical information incidentally conveyed. Dr. Ullman has handled his theme in a scholarly and philosophical manner. Of the translator's part of the work it is scarcely possible to speak too highly. His rendering displays a thoroughmastery over the difficulties of such a task. We have rarely met with a translation so correct, and bearing so few traces of its foreign origin. But for the announcement on the title-page, nobody would imagine it to be a translation at all—the style is so purely English. The notes supply very useful illustrations, and references which the student will do well to consult.

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THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

THE following important document—by which the Royal Commissioners seek a renewal from the Crown of their expiring powers, in order to enable them to deal with the surplus in their hands—has just been made public.—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

May it please your Majesty,—

We, the Commissioners appointed by your Majesty's Royal Warrant of the 3rd of January 1850, for the Promotion of the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations, and subsequently incorporated by your Majesty's Royal charter of the 15th of August 1850, humbly beg to submit to your Majesty the following Report.

The Exhibition for the promotion of which we were appointed by your Majesty was finally closed on the 15th of October of this year, and we humbly beg to report to your Majesty that the medals and prizes have been awarded to the successful Exhibitors by the juries appointed to judge on the merits of their productions, and are in course of distribution. The full reports of the juries will be laid before your Majesty when completed, together with the list of the successful competitors. We are now engaged in bringing to a close all the business connected with the Exhibition, and in defraying the various expenses incurred during its progress. Most of the claims on the funds at our disposal, however, are already discharged, and after all shall have been satisfied a considerable surplus will remain, the precise amount of which cannot be ascertained until the accounts are finally wound up, when they will be duly laid before your Majesty, but which surplus we have reason to believe will not be less than 150,000*l*.

This surplus will consist in the balance that may remain in our hands, after deducting all expenditure from the sum of (in round numbers) 505,000*l*, which has been derived from the following sources:

Subscriptions	£7,400
Entrance Fees	424,400
Casual Receipts	13,200
Total	£505,000

Of the entrance fees, a portion has been paid by foreign visitors, and it was owing to the fact that the contributions of all nations were there displayed that the number of visits made by persons attracted to the Exhibition amounted to upwards of 6,000,000.

The subscriptions were derived, with few exceptions, solely from your Majesty's subjects, and were made after a public announcement that they must be "absolute and definite," but that should any surplus remain, it was the intention of your Majesty's Commissioners to apply the same to purposes strictly in connexion with the ends of the Exhibition, or for the establishment of similar Exhibitions for the future."

We humbly beg to represent to your Majesty that we are of opinion that it is not advisable to apply the surplus to the last-named purpose. Considering that the Exhibition which has just closed has afforded ample proof that an undertaking of this kind can be made self-supporting, and that it may safely be left to the public again to provide, when required, the means of meeting the preliminary expenses,—considering also the impossibility of fixing long beforehand any definite period for the repetition of such an Exhibition, which requires for its success so many concurrent circumstances; we are of opinion that greater benefit may be derived by the public from a judicious application in the interval of the means at our disposal to the furtherance of the general objects for which the Exhibition was designed, and in such a manner that the advantages which may be obtained should not be confined solely to your Majesty's subjects, but should be shared, as far as it may be possible, by other countries.

These objects your Majesty's Commissioners conceive to have been the furtherance of every branch of human industry, by the comparison of the processes employed, and of the results obtained by all the nations of the earth—and the promotion of kindly international feelings, by the practical illustration of the advantages which may be derived

by each country from what has been done by others. Your Majesty's Commissioners have the satisfaction to be able to express to your Majesty their conviction that the Exhibition has to a great extent attained these objects, and that in its consequences the most beneficial results may yet be expected.

Already many requirements on the part of the public have become apparent during the course of the Exhibition, and have found expression in various suggestions made to us for the application of the surplus; many of them, however, were for objects quite inconsistent with the pledges above alluded to, whilst others, though for purposes in accordance with them, were of a limited, partial, or local character.

Your Majesty's Commissioners are of opinion that no measures could be so strictly in accordance with the ends of the Exhibition as those which may increase the means of industrial education and extend the influence of Science and Art upon productive industry. We are fully aware of the difficulty of devising a comprehensive plan to meet these objects; should the view, however, which we have taken as to the manner of fulfilling our pledges meet with your Majesty's approbation, we beg to assure your Majesty that we shall give our fullest and most careful consideration to this important subject, and we would suggest that full time should be afforded us to consider and mature such a plan as we should feel warranted in laying before your Majesty, the more so as from the disproportion between the end proposed and the means at present applicable to it, much will depend on the extent of co-operation we may receive from the public.

We are advised, however, that our powers under your Majesty's Royal Charter will cease when all the expenses incidental to the Exhibition shall have been discharged, and notice thereof given to your Majesty's Secretary of State, and that we have not the power of deciding upon the disposal of the surplus.

If, therefore, it be your Majesty's pleasure that we should act further in this matter, it will be necessary before we can take even any preliminary step, that your Majesty should grant to us by Royal Charter such further powers as your Majesty may deem necessary to enable us to lay before your Majesty a scheme for the application of the surplus in accordance with the expectations held out to the public, and with the sanction and approval of your Majesty to adopt such measures as may be necessary for such purpose.

All which we humbly take leave to report to your Majesty.

Given under our corporate seal this sixth day of November in the year of our Lord 1851.

(L.S.) (Signed) ALBERT,
President of the Commissioners for
the Exhibition of 1851.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT WITH AMERICA.

Atlantic, October 31.

FROM a conviction of the great importance of this subject as affecting the interests of a large class of my fellow countrymen in particular, and of the whole of the reading community at large,—I have made a point during a visit to the United States of ascertaining as far as practicable the feelings of our American neighbours thereon, with the view of arriving at what our prospects really are,—how they may have been affected by Lord Campbell's recent judgment recognizing the copyright of American authors in our country,—the probable effect which a reversal of such decision would have,—and lastly the practicability of some immediate measure to meet the existing evils.

The evil complained of and its remedy may be well discussed under the following heads:—

1. The law as it is and its effects.

2. The interests and wishes of authors, publishers and people.

3. The law as it might be.

1. The anomaly presented by the existing state of the law is too well known to need recapitulation here. It is notorious that Prescott, Cooper, Washington Irving, Melville, or any successful author of yesterday can and does receive as

much in Great Britain as in America;—whilst Macaulay—whose 'History of England' has a circulation in the States of nearly 200,000—Dickens, or any other of our best authors, receives nothing more than a mere gratuity through an English agent for the compliment of obtaining an early copy of his book to reprint from. These, I say, are notorious facts,—and need no comment;—and the result is equally apparent,—that American literature must always have an English tone,—English literature be taxed to an exorbitant extent to remunerate the author,—and the people of each country suffer. Why should Macaulay's 'England' be 32*s*. in England, and the same edition 6*s*. in the United States? Only because the whole of the author's profit depends on the English sale:—which scarcely amounts to a fourth of the sale amongst the reading people of America. It may be urged that this is an extreme case, if not an isolated one. As regards the circulation of the particular book, it may be so:—but it exemplifies the system,—and every author and all his works are affected to a proportionate extent. I will refer to the works of an author of more moderate renown, but justly admired in Great Britain. My attention being specially drawn in a New York publisher's store to a goodly row of foolscap volumes of his works,—I ascertained their average sale at 75 cents, 3*s*., per volume to have reached 8,000 copies;—whilst in England their sale only averages from 2,000 to 3,000, the price of each volume being 6*s*. 6*d*. or 7*s*.. As regards appearance in getting up, the American edition, too, has the advantage. The effect of this systematic reprint of English books in America is far more prejudicial to our authors than appears to be estimated at home. The prohibition into our colonies attempted to be enforced some few years back has signally failed,—no less than the subsequent amended measures for the restriction of the sale therein. Colony after colony is now admitting American reprints, at a duty of from 12*s*. to 25 per cent. according to local enactment. That this system, although it may annoy, offers no impediment to the importation is evident, so far at least as Canada is concerned; and I found in all its chief cities that the book trade is nearly confined to American reprints,—many a bookseller never having even seen an English edition of Macaulay's 'England.' In answer to my remark—"At least the author obtains a portion of the duty" (as intended by the law),—it was stated that "no amount had yet been realized for any English author, the whole proceeds of the impost being engrossed by the expenses of stationery and salaries. It will be seen, therefore, that the question at issue is even more than the author's right to his works in a foreign land:—and this brings me to consider the second point.

2. It would be useless to overlook that there is a large party both in America and in England denying the rights of an author to profit from his works out of his own country. The real tendency of this opinion, when the argument is raised, invariably shews itself to be, an entire free trade in literature:—such persons always coming to the point that a book once published becomes public property, and the author has no more power over the price at which it is sold, &c. Passing over the manifest difficulties of such a position no less than its injustice, I beg to bear testimony to the fact, that both authors and publishers of America have been, and are increasingly, anxious to secure some adequate international arrangement by which the literary interests of both countries may be secured,—and that the opinion of the people at large is now decidedly in favour of reciprocating, at least to a certain extent, the protection recently confirmed to American authors in England. No other step could have been taken at home to secure so great an improvement in public feeling throughout the States as this. The Americans like not to be outdone in generosity; and their sense of justice has been partly enlisted on the same side since the decision of the English court of law. I will maintain,—to nothing else shall we be indebted for obtaining an international copyright,—and nothing could so effectually check it as the overruling of the judgment of Lord Campbell in

the House of Lords. That the attempt has been relinquished I hear with unfeigned pleasure. As I doubt not that the opinions of the promoters of the meeting in July last are held by a small and interested party, so am I equally convinced that were it possible to have acted on them a most prejudicial effect on the cause of literature and international equity would have been perpetrated. I think, then, it is clearly seen that the interests of authors and publishers demand some alteration in the existing law,—and that, as far as can be judged, public feeling is in both countries in its favour. The feeling of the American publishers—as I have been during the last few weeks enabled to gather it—offers somewhat of an index to the state of public opinion;—and it is gratifying to be able to report that, with the exception of one principal firm, there is an uniform expression of agreement to the form of protection I suggested. Even the firm referred to stated that this protection “certainly would not be opposed by them;—but as advocacy of it would lay them open to the charge of acting on interested grounds, they must decline to interfere.”

3. The third point comprehends the suggestion referred to,—viz., that authors shall have protection for the first five years for their works in foreign countries, dating from the first publication in their own,—and that such protected right be transferable. It would be tedious, as it were unnecessary, to go through all the arguments bearing on this position. After much consideration, I am convinced that it is the best that can be attempted with any hope of success. Accustomed as the Americans are to cheap literature, it is neither to be expected, nor indeed is it desirable or requisite, that they should voluntarily impose the high prices that must result from an injudicious recognition and enforcement of our own copyright laws. The utmost that our authors can expect to obtain is, the right to sell a substantial priority of publication such as I speak of;—and on the other hand this is what our friends the Americans cannot and will not oppose. The case of Mr. G. P. R. James proves that there is a corresponding readiness with them to recognize the claims of English authors, and to support such a moderate measure for their protection as we have lately displayed towards them. His position (that of a temporary citizen) in “*The States*” is about analogous to that of an author under a few years’ protection. He now obtains adequate compensation; and yet, so large is the circulation of his books and the energy and enterprise of his publishers, that his recent novel, published in Great Britain for one guinea and a-half, is issued in New York, in a handsome octavo volume, stitched, for 50 cents,—or 2s. 1d. sterling. One such illustration as this will go far to prove what may be attempted with success, and carried out to the benefit of our British authors, without loss to the American people, than anything more that could be urged by—Yours,

S. L. Jun.

ORDER OF MERIT—THE BATH.

I agree in all that you have said as to the policy—the necessity—of the Queen having it in her power to confer some appropriate honour on those whose genius, learning, or virtues bring honour on the nation, or who render service to the nation, although not public servants, either civil or military; and I agree that, if there be no other means of recognizing such services, an “*Order of Civil Merit*” is absolutely required. But I submit that the establishment of such an “*Order*” is not without objection; that it would perpetuate distinctions that ought not to exist, and tend to create rivalry and jealousy, and therefore run counter to the spirit of the age, and the enlightened and liberal spirit which has suggested such an “*Order*.” The argument in its favour seems to rest on the assumption that the “*Order of the Bath*” is not open to persons, whatever may be their services, who are not in the employment of the Crown. This, I think, is a mistake. I know of course the narrow spirit in which the Statutes of the Order have been hitherto interpreted. I am aware of the prejudices which were offended when the Bath was thrown open to the Civil Service,—fully aware that to interpret the

Statutes more liberally would still further offend the prejudices of the half-thinking and the no-thinking imbecilities of a past age which yet linger amongst us;—but I shall confine myself to the Statutes themselves, and leave you and others, more able, to deal with the general question.

The “*Letters Patent*” of Her Majesty by which the Order of the Bath is now constituted set forth, that it is “*expedient*” that “*changes should be made in the constitution of the said Order with a view to the adaptation thereby to the altered state and circumstances of society.*” This, it must be admitted, is in the spirit of the age and of your article. I then refer to the Statutes themselves; and they set forth:—“*Whereas, by the said recited Letters Patent of the tenth year of our reign, certain material changes have been made in the constitution of the said Order, so as to accommodate the same to the present and future exigencies of our realm, and to the due distribution of appropriate rewards amongst such of our faithful subjects as are now or shall hereafter become pre-eminently distinguished by their loyalty and merit in the military or civil service of us, our heirs and successors, or shall otherwise have merited our favour.*” Can words be more comprehensive?—“*Material changes*” are made in the statutes of the Order, expressly with a view to the adaptation thereof to the altered state and circumstances of society, and the due distribution of appropriate rewards amongst Her Majesty’s “*faithful subjects*”—those who shall be distinguished in the “*Military or Civil Service*,” or—“*mark this!*—“*shall otherwise have merited our favour.*” Yet, with these specific words in explanation of the general and declared intention, we are told that the Order of the Bath is by its statutes expressly confined as a reward to “*Military and Civil Service.*” Then, who I ask are the *third parties* especially referred to—who, being neither in the military nor in the civil service, may, it is assumed, merit Her Majesty’s favour? The objectors I suppose rest their case on the eighth Ordinance, which sets forth that “*no persons shall be nominated members of the Order who shall not by their personal services to our Crown, or by the performance of public duties, have merited our royal favour.*” Admitting, for the moment, that there is some force in the restricted interpretation of this Ordinance, that interpretation could have no application whatever to the Commissioners and others connected with the late Exhibition,—for they acted expressly under *Her Majesty’s Commission*, and therefore did perform “*public duties*” according to the narrowest construction of the shallowest of red-tapists. But I deny that this Ordinance has any such restrictive power. It must be read and interpreted in the spirit of the Letters Patent; and so interpreted, public duties and public services are one and the same thing,—the preference of course being in favour of those who perform public services without being enforced thereto as a public duty. Every man, I say, who by his learning or by his genius brings honour on the nation does good and *the best service to the Crown*;—and such men, and all men who on occasion of the late great national triumph rendered service to the nation, are eligible to the honour of the Bath. I am, &c. F.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Essex will have at least a temporary celebrity for two of its lions:—Chief Justice Tindal sitting on his pump in the Pig-Market at Chelmsford, and the Asylum for Idiots located in Essex Hall, at Colchester. Our readers know the original and entertaining story of the first,—that of the second is told in the report of the board of management for 1851 now before us. The asylum is a graver theme than the conduit,—and in the shadow of its walls the good people of Essex may shelter from the shower of squibs and crackers which must be constantly playing around the latter. We have watched the band of earnest men who four years ago entered heart and soul into the then doubtful experiment of idiot treatment with no ordinary interest. We have seen their difficulties vanish one after another before earnest faith in nature and unresisting devotion to her cause. At the outset no task could well have appeared less hopeful than that which they undertook. Every-

thing was to be done. Everybody, from the patient to the practitioner, had to be taught. The theory had to be sustained as well as the practice. These reformers started with a new truth—which was a conviction rather than a fact, and needed to be proved from experience. They wished to show the world that the idiot is not an utter castaway. They therefore, to quote their own words in this new report, adopted the rule—“*to deem no case ineligible, however bad in itself, and however burdensome to themselves, where there was the reasonable prospect of amendment.*” Some of the results, after three years of practical treatment of these poor creatures, may now be counted. Of the entire number on which their humane skill has been tried, at the period of entering the institution 25 were unable to walk, 114 were unable to feed, dress, or take care of their persons, 20 were epileptic, 12 paralyzed, 68 dumb, and 25 under nine years of age,—but, of course, all of them subjects of physical infirmity and mental imbecility. So helpless and unpromising a family had perhaps never before been brought together. Nevertheless, of this list of unfortunates 6 have been taught to walk, and 14 are much improved in the use of their limbs; 27 of those who had been dumb or who made strange and unmeaning noises are getting the use of articulate sounds and beginning to speak; 48 have been taught to feed and dress themselves, and to observe cleanly habits; 23 have been taught to read, 27 to write, 11 to cipher, and 16 to draw. Some are learning music, nearly all singing, and most of them are in the drilling or gymnastic classes. Order has been established in the institution, good habits have been formed, and we are assured that a high standard of health and happiness has been established amongst the patients. It appears by the report that the board of management have bought a site for the new institution which it is proposed to erect, somewhere “*within half-an-hour of London*”;—but they do not feel justified in proceeding with the works until the building fund of 10,000*l.* shall have been raised by subscriptions,—towards which sum, however, scarcely a fourth has yet been received.

Miss Overweg has received a letter from Dr. Dickson, of Tripoli:—a gentleman who takes a lively interest in the Expedition to Central Africa,—and who greatly assisted the travellers during their stay in that city. This letter, dated Tripoli, 8th of October, contains most gratifying news of the travellers up to the 6th of August. Dr. Overweg had safely joined his companion, Dr. Barth, at Kuka. Both were in the best health and spirits:—and the latter had started on a highly interesting excursion to the kingdom of Adamowa, while the former was exploring Lake Tsad. The boat, which had been taken to pieces in Tripoli, and during a journey of twelve months had with immense trouble been carried on camels across the burning sands of the Sahrá, had been put together and launched on the lake; and the English colours were hoisted in the presence, and to the great delight, of numerous natives. Dr. Overweg in exploring the islands of Lake Tsad had been everywhere received with great kindness by their Pagan inhabitants. The rainy season had commenced,—during which the travellers would be compelled to remain quiet about two months at Kuka. More ample information is now daily expected.

It will be remembered that about two years ago the assurance principle was applied in rather a novel form to railways, by the establishment of a company for insuring to railway passengers compensation in cases of accident. If the passenger was killed, his executors were to receive the full amount of the assurance which he might have effected;—if injured only, the assurer himself was to receive a proportionate and liberal award out of the sum covered by his assurance ticket—or rather his assurance policy,—for it was part of the legal scheme of the company that all its “*tickets*” were to be construed as “*policies*,” and all the railway clerks by whom they were issued were to be regarded in point of law as authorized agents of the company for the issue of policies. This plan has now been in operation for two years; and we learn from an official report issued the other day

that on the whole it has been successful. At first the directors began without proper data,—and they fell of course into error. They underrated their risks, and they fixed on too low a scale of premiums. They have now amended their scheme of business,—and they express confidence in the soundness of their adventure. The statistics of their operations are curious. It appears, for example, that during the six months ended the 30th of June last the company issued 19,000 of their first-class insurance tickets, 41,000 second-class, and 53,000 third-class. They received 3,155*l.* in premiums on these tickets,—they paid 2,068*l.* as compensation for two fatal cases and fifty-three partial cases of accident,—and they made arrangements for the sale of these tickets at 144 additional railway stations. It appears, also, that they have entered on a most useful and praiseworthy extension of their scheme by the insurance against accident of the servants—high and low—of the several railway companies.—We ought to say, that another company on a similar basis has been for some time in existence,—but professing to cover a wider field, inasmuch as its policies grant compensation for accidents occurring on railways or in any other mode. In other words, the older company insures against accidents of one kind,—the new company insures against accidents of all kinds;—and in a scientific point of view both schemes are sound. The reduction into practice is a question of data, prudence and perseverance.

A few weeks ago a cargo of books on Oriental languages and literature arrived in Cork, as a present from the East India Company to the Queen's College in that city. The good people turned over the leaves of these works, admired the curious twists and contortions of Sanscrit and Arabic letters, and wondered what was meant by sending such a present to the capital of Munster. The secret has now come out in the agreeable shape of an announcement that the President of the Board of Control, Lord Broughton de Gyfford, has placed at the disposal of Lord Clarendon, in his capacity of Chancellor of the University, a Writership in the civil service of the great company, to be bestowed by him on one of the students as a reward for academic merit. Education is indebted for this boon—important in itself, still more so as a precedent for a new and more honourable distribution of government offices in the future—chiefly to Sir Robert Kane,—but the fact is creditable to all parties concerned. No post in the Indian civil service is necessarily closed against the man who may obtain this Writership. He will begin the world in that country with far greater advantages than Clive or Hastings possessed in the early part of their career.

At length an attempt is in progress to drain the Regent's Park. Workmen are employed in digging deep trenches for the earthenware tubes. No movement in the metropolis was more called for in behalf of public health than this drainage,—and now that it is undertaken it is to be hoped that it will be done thoroughly.

As a proof of the strong feeling which exists of the necessity of an enlarged system of industrial education, we may mention the fact that the gifts made by the exhibitors of minerals, metallurgical processes, mining and other models, to the Museum of Practical Geology have been most extensive. Messrs. Naylor, Vickers & Co. have presented their models of steel works and specimens of steel,—Mr. Bird, his collection of manufactured iron,—Mr. Blackwell, his extensive series of iron ores,—Mr. Morris Stirling, his metallic alloys,—Messrs. Solly & Co., specimens of their steel manufacture,—Mr. Nicholas Wood, models of coal working,—Mr. Foudrinier, his safety apparatus for raising or lowering miners,—the proprietors of the Devon Great Consols, their beautiful water-wheels,—Messrs. Hartly & Co., of Newcastle, their model of glass-house, and specimens of the manufacture of sheet glass. Numerous other presents, of the minerals exhibited, &c. have been made to this national establishment. Foreign States have not been behind in liberality. The Zollverein States, Austria, Russia and Spain have presented complete series of their minerals and metals:—thus rendering important service to an institution so essentially practical as the one in Jermyn Street.

Amidst the busy innovations of this active time, it is very difficult to appreciate as it deserves the great social progress which, in spite of all our imperfections and of all the obstacles that beset our path, has been made by this country since the close of the war. The immense fall, for example, which has taken place in the cost of all the articles of food and clothing that enter into the consumption of the working and middle, and also of the higher, classes, is in its effects equivalent to a social change of the most important kind. An intelligent correspondent of one of the ablest of our contemporaries has recently placed some of the facts connected with this change in a striking point of view. He met with an aged and observant cottager who was old enough to remember very distinctly the prices of commodities, or rather the cost of a cottager's household in 1810; and taking down from the lips of the informant the prices of that year and placing them in juxtaposition with the prices of 1851, the writer in question produces a most suggestive document. Let us refer to a few of the comparative prices at the two periods. The price of a hat, for instance, in 1810 was 20*s.*, and in 1851 it had fallen to 7*s.*—or, if a labourer's weekly wages had been paid for in hats, he would have had three times as great a supply in the present year as he had forty years ago. A gown cost 21*s.* in 1810,—and only 6*s.* in 1851. Calico was 2*s.* 9*d.* a yard, against 6*d.* at present. Tea was 8*s.* per lb., against 4*s.* now. Brown sugar was 10*d.*—and is now 4*d.* Salt was 18*s.* per bushel,—and has now fallen to 1*s.* A bushel of flour was 20*s.* in 1810,—and 5*s.* in 1851:—but then we must remember that 1810 was a famine year. It may be said in reply to these facts, that the rate of money wages has fallen with the rate of money prices. But this is an assertion very difficult to prove. In some few cases there has been a great decline in money wages; but beyond doubt, as a general result, it must be confessed that money wages have not declined in the same ratio as money prices,—and therefore that the condition of the people is materially improved, inasmuch as the real or commodity price of their labour is probably as much as one-third, or one-half, or three-fourths better than it was in 1810.

The French papers report the death, at Moscow, of M. de Saint Priest—a member of the French Academy, formerly a Peer of France,—and the author of several historical works.

We hear from Rome that the library of the Vatican is to receive the valuable collection of oriental manuscripts made by the late Monsignor Molsa,—Laurenzi's successor.

A Correspondent says:—"The Italian Journals speak of a plan submitted by the Inspector of Telegraphs, M. Rad, of Vienna, to the Austrian Government, relating to a universal telegraphic line throughout Europe,—to India, &c. On the other hand, M. G. J. Ascoli is publishing a little work, entitled Paxitelegraphia, relating to the plan of a universal telegraphic language.—Thus a final method of international intelligence will be obtained."

After a fast, there should be a feast, says an ancient proverb. After a battle, a scourge—a disaster of any kind—history declares that there is most marrying and giving in marriage. Human nature is indeed wonderfully elastic. The sources of joy and grief, smiles and tears lie near to each other,—and by a wise provision of things, there is a constant action and reaction in the heart and its impulses, which keep a balance in the long run. The intense vitality of the race—its instinctive resolution not to die off—has long puzzled the philosopher. Even the prosiest of old chroniclers, living in days when population was less thickly sown on the earth's surface, and therefore when temporary local clearances were easily and often made, saw with interest that men are like certain trees, the more they are hacked the faster they multiply. The same truth re-appears in the pages of one of the prosiest annalists of these times—the Registrar General. After the recent famine, cholera and agricultural distress, there has followed a spring tide of emotion, devotion and prosperity. Never but once has England known so many weddings in a single summer as the lists just published show of the present year. In ten

years the number has risen nearly 10,000—10,000 for three months,—more than 111 extra weddings, or 222 extra persons wedded a day. And yet there are men who still talk of national decline, of the springs of industry being loosened, of increase of present apathy and future despair. No doubt the Croakers have a disagreeable and heavy task. Charm they never so wisely, the world, busy with its wedding breakfasts and its christenings, will not stay to listen. No amount of croaking likely to be got up in these islands can drown the music of these 10,000 extra marriage bells! The increase has not, however, been uniform throughout the country. London, which takes the lead in most things, sets an example in this act of social rejoicing. During the summer now past 13,030 persons were married:—exceeding the number in the summer of 1848 by 2,212. In Surrey (out of London), in Sussex, Kent and Berkshire, the marriages were nearly stationary. In Hampshire they decreased. In the South Midland and Eastern Counties, as well as in Wiltshire, Dorsetshire and Devonshire, marriage was stationary or decreased. In Cornwall and Somersetshire there was an increase. In Gloucestershire marriage was stationary. In Herefordshire and Shropshire, the numbers married were unprecedentedly low. In Staffordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire—including the chief seats of the Midland iron trade—the marriages increased. In the town of Birmingham they rose from 383 in 1848 to 487. Leicestershire, Rutlandshire and Lincolnshire were below—Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire above—the average:—the excess occurring chiefly in the districts of Nottingham, Chertsey and Hayfield. The marriages in Cheshire and Lancashire decreased. The decrease was considerable in Liverpool, and greater still in Manchester. This is perhaps, on the whole, the most remarkable fact presented by the returns. In the West Riding of Yorkshire, there is an excess; most conspicuous in Sheffield. The marriages decreased in the North Riding of Yorkshire, in Northumberland, and in Cumberland:—increased in the coal districts of Durham. In Monmouthshire and Wales they were less frequent than in 1850. As the Registrar observes,—“The marriages have been in excess generally where cholera was most fatal in 1849.” The same bells ring the death knell and the wedding peal;—in one breath the heralds announce the demise of one sovereign and the accession of another. So it is throughout. Nature has wisely and beautifully designed it, that the funeral baked meats should often serve to furnish forth the marriage tables. Where there has been great and sudden waste, it is pleasant to see the instinctive effort to repair it by a process more than usually rapid. This instinct has hitherto developed itself with something like the regularity of a law,—and we venture to think it will continue to do so in spite of all the Croakers and Fitz-Malthuses in existence.

ENGLISH ART.—SKETCHES AND DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hunt, R.A., Greville, R.A., John Martin, R.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1*s.* 2*d.* 6*d.*, and 3*d.*—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN is exhibited immediately preceding the Diorama of the OVKELAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Dock, Cleve, the Tagna, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mauclercum, “The Taj Mahal,” the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior.—Daily, at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.* 2*d.* 6*d.*, and 3*d.*—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Geographical, half-past 8.—Projected Expedition to the North-Eastern Shores of Siberia, in Search of Sir John Franklin, by Lieut. Bedford Pim, R.N.—Accounts from the Mission to Central Africa, by Dr. Barth, communicated by the Foreign Office.
- Royal Academy, 8.—“On Anatomy,” by Prof. Green.
- TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—“An Investigation of the Strain upon the Diagonals of Lattice Beams, with the resulting formulae,” by W. T. Doane and W. R. Blood.—Description of the Viaduct erected over the River Rore, near Thurston, in the County of Kilkenny, to carry the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway, by W. S. Moorson.
- Zoological, & Scientific Business.—“On the Relative Capacity of the Cranium in the Negro, Chimpanzee, and Orang-Utan,” by Prof. Owen, and other papers.

— Syro-Egyptian, half-past 7.
 WED. Literary Fund.
 THURS. Royal Society of Literature, 4.
 FRI. Astronomical, 8.
 SAT. Asiatic, 2.
 — Medical, 8.

FINE ARTS

MR. WILLIAM WYON, R.A.

THE daily papers have announced the death, at Brighton, on the 29th of October, of Mr. William Wyon, — a medal engraver of admirable skill, probably more widely known by his works than any other living artist. We say more widely known, because Mr. Wyon was the engraver of the later coins of King George the Fourth, and of all the coins of William the Fourth and of Her present Majesty, — and gold, silver and copper when in the shape of sterling money are carried beyond the narrower circles to which the other branches of Art are unavoidably confined.

Mr. Wyon was of German descent: — the son of Peter Wyon, a die-sinker at Birmingham, in partnership with his elder brother Thomas. He was born at Birmingham in 1795, — apprenticed to his father, — and evinced when very young that taste, feeling, and skill in his art of which he has left behind him so many admirable examples. He came of a race of die-sinkers and engravers. His grandfather was the George Wyon who executed the silver cup embossed with the assassination of Julius Cæsar presented by the City of London to John Wilson.

Mr. Wyon's early works were, copies of the heads of Hercules, Ceres, &c. The figure of Antinous — a work of a few years later — was so much to the liking of his father that he had it set in gold and wore it as a seal to his dying day.

In 1816 Mr. Wyon came to London: — and in that year he was appointed second engraver in the Royal Mint. He gained the appointment by competition: — Sir Thomas Lawrence deciding for the Master. His "trial-piece" — for so Simon would have called it — was, a head of George the Third. Mr. Wyon's cousin Thomas was then the chief engraver.

Mr. Wyon had now a fair field and an honourable career before him: — but his hopes were darkened — first by the untimely death of his cousin the chief engraver — and secondly by the appointment to the office of chief engraver of Mr. Pistrucci, then a new importation into the Mint, and a favourite with the Master. Mr. Pistrucci was a skilful artist, — but an indolent one; and much of his work devolved on Mr. Wyon, without, it appears, any increase to his pay. — Differences arose which led to divisions, — a new Master came, — and Mr. Wyon was made chief engraver with one-half of Mr. Pistrucci's salary. — Mr. Pistrucci being allowed to receive the other half. To relate what followed would lead us into inextricable difficulties. Mr. Nicholas Carlisle was the champion of Mr. Wyon in a printed memoir of his life and a catalogue of his works, — and Mr. Hamilton was the champion of Mr. Pistrucci in a bold rejoinder to Mr. Carlisle. The public feeling, as shown by the Royal Academy, was in favour of Mr. Wyon. In 1832 he was elected an Associate of that body — and in 1838, a full Academician. That the Royal Academy was right in the preference of Mr. Wyon over Mr. Pistrucci was, we believe, generally maintained. Mr. Pistrucci never did justice to his genius, excepting on one or two occasions (his head of George the Fourth is very fine), — and seldom, if ever, to his tact or temper. Mr. Hamilton was equally intemperate. Nor is this said without a careful and impartial inquiry derived from the Memoir and the Replies — from Treasury Minutes and Parliamentary Papers — from Mr. Wyon's evidence and from that of Mr. Pistrucci.

Mr. Wyon's works may be classified under the several heads of coins — pattern-pieces not coined — medals — and seals. His coins of George the Fourth and William the Fourth are from the models of Chantrey, — his Queen Victoria coins from models by himself. His patterns include a ten-pound piece of William the Fourth — a five-pound piece, a crown piece, and nine patterns of the florins of Her present Majesty. The five-pound piece has a figure of Una on the reverse, — and the

general feeling in the crown-piece is of a mediæval character. The florins have as yet scarcely got into circulation; and the crown-piece was not struck for the public, because the Company of Moneyers who then farmed the Mint were required to take more than their usual care in striking it, and extra care would have reduced the profits of the company. Mr. Wyon is known to have felt the determination of the company as an injury to his fame: — but now that the body is abolished the crown will perhaps be struck. The new Master (Sir John Herschel) is alive to the best interests of the Mint, — and has, it is said, a true feeling for Art. Crowns, however, it must be admitted, are clumsy coins.

Mr. Wyon's medals — for he was never idle — include the recent war medals of the Peninsula, Trafalgar, Jellalabad and Cabul, — the civic medals of the Royal Academy, the Royal Society, the Royal Institution, the Geological Society, the Geographical Society, the Bengal Asiatic Society, and indeed of almost every learned society, home and colonial. Some of these have on the obverse heads from the antique, from modern and from living personages. The Harrow School Medal given by the late Sir Robert Peel bears a head of Cicero, — the Royal Institution Medal, the head of Lord Bacon, — the prize Medal of the University of Glasgow, the head of Sir Isaac Newton, — the Geological Society Medal, the head of Dr. Wollaston, — the Art Union Medal, the head of Sir Francis Chantrey, — and the Brodie testimonial, the head of Sir Benjamin Brodie. Some of the reverses of Mr. Wyon's medals were executed from designs by Flaxman, Howard and others; but many — and those some of the best — are from designs by himself. His medal of Sir Walter Scott bears a reverse after Stothard, — and his coronation medal of William the Fourth, a reverse of Queen Adelaide, after Chantrey.

As an engraver of medals Mr. Wyon will stand hereafter in our English order of merit immediately after Thomas Simon. He has not equalled Simon; but he has surpassed Briot, the Koettiers, Rawlins, Blondeau, Croker, Tanner, Pingo, and Pistrucci. His heads have both force and delicacy, — and are always admirable in point of likeness. His reverses are conceived in the school of Flaxman: — for whose works he was known to have evinced greater enthusiasm than for those of any other modern artist.

Mr. Wyon was in his fifty-seventh year. — Much of his genius is inherited by his son Leonard: — known by his medals of Wordsworth and others, — and honourably distinguished, we observe, in the recent awards at the Great Exhibition.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Fine-Art Exhibition in the Museo Borbonico.

Naples.

THOSE who are in the habit of visiting our Exhibitions of Painting and Sculpture in London would be greatly disappointed with similar displays in Italy: — the more so perhaps as it is difficult to disconnect past triumph from present failures. Living in the midst of the wonderful productions of the pencil and the chisel, it might be supposed that something of the incomparable past would be found in the works of the modern Italian artist. Such, however, is not the case. Those who speak the same language as Raffaele, who live under the same sky, with the same nature around them, both animate and inanimate, now receive very different impressions and produce widely different results. If classical subject is attempted, you find a reproduction of the French school: — if a Madonna is painted, you have simply a dolorful face, vulgar a little in conception and in colour. The flesh which Titian painted from Italian beauty is now rendered either with a brick-dust heat or with the grey marble aspect of death. The sunlight of Claude is superseded by noisy colour: — in fact, now-a-days a totally different result is produced from the same causes as those which gave a world-fame to the Italian schools.

Something may be said about the patronage of Art in Italy at the present moment. The Church has long ceased to buy great works: — a gaudy picture or a vulgar decoration is all that is now

required to inspire devotional feelings in the temples of religion. So true is this assertion, that it frequently occurs when repairs in churches are taking place that you find the superior art destroyed by whitewash and bad paintings, from which Italians would formerly have turned with disgust. And yet there is a show of royal patronage. Every Italian Government sends young men to Rome at the expense of the Treasury. There, artists study from Michael Angelo and Raffaele; and though they are not obliged to paint down to any taste of the day, they produce nothing positively worthy of remark. They send home now and then a large canvas, and you see occasionally some good academical drawing, — but there is no life, no feeling; and almost always there are the very worst features of modern colour. By such means the palaces of royal princes are now hung with the valueless efforts of modern Italian art. The palace of the King of Naples at Capo di Monte is actually crowded with this class of works. What becomes of the grand historical painters, as they suppose themselves? You find them eventually painting little pictures, or rather views, for travellers — or large pictures too bad to sell to any one except the native royal princes who now and then buy a picture more for charity than for other motives. What is wanted in Italy for the production of superior art, is a healthy patronage — a public who buy pictures for their merit. That patronage does not exist. The nobility are generally poor; and the merchants, unlike those of England, are not educated. The Italian artist, therefore, must live either by the royal prince or by the travelling stranger — equally fatal to his art. We have no longer in Italy such families as that of the Medici; — and as for the migratory patrons, they see so much better art at home that they do not care to spend their money on modern Italian productions.

I am inclined to believe that the increasing number of English artists who annually visit Italy gain much more from what they see around them than the natives. Wherein the British artist fails is, in the use or adaptation of what he sees in Italy; but he generally spends too much time amongst the old canvases, and pays too little attention to the nature which inspired and adorned them. He seldom improves in colour after a visit to Italy. Many contend that Wilkie lost by his travels; and certainly many a British artist has failed to make a proper use of his Italian experience.

These remarks have grown out of the Exhibition which I will now endeavour to report, — more for the purpose of showing what native artists are doing in Italy than as any attempt at criticism of works which, with few exceptions, will probably be never heard of out of Italy. Smargiassi is considered the best Neapolitan painter. He exhibits this year two large canvases — a Sunset and a Moonlight. The sunset is a composition which has more heat in it than light. This is an inspiration from the "Sunny South," — but far away from what Turner has done under the grey sky of England. The Moonlight is a view of the Bay of Naples from Posilippo: — such a moonlight as we have in Naples — more like a silver day. The objects are clear and crisp in outline and true to Italian nature. These pictures are works of royal patronage. Fergola, the next artist in reputation as a landscape painter, exhibits a forest scene, with larger trees than I have ever seen in Italy, — where the artist must generally content himself with a pine. This work would scarcely pass muster in England. The brothers Carelli, who are known to a few English patrons, have sent some clever interiors of churches, in oil, in sepià, and in water colour. Of this class they are the best works in the Exhibition. They want, however, more breadth of light and shade, — more effect. They are more like the works of an architect than of a painter. Palizzi exhibits the best landscape in the gallery: — it is a large canvas called *An Approach to an ancient City*. The last rays of a summer sun fall on a grand mountain in the middle distance, — all around is in twilight, — a lake reflects the sunlight of the mountain, — and the foreground is scattered with architectural fragments. The sky is admirable, and almost breathes the salutation "*felice notte*." This picture could have been painted only in Italy. The conception

and execution are purely Italian. The best figure picture is by Oliva:—*Christ tied to be scourged*. It is very beautiful in drawing and fine in colour; but has no nature.—We have the usual subjects of Tasso in Prison, Ettore Fieramosca, the Brides of Venice, and other stock Italian stories, most of which may be found on ladies' fans, and almost all equally well executed. The portraits exhibited are severe satires on the affections or egotism, as the case may be, of those who have ordered them. In this branch of Art the Italians are far behind ourselves. The best small picture is by a German artist, Bielschowsky:—a female figure, a girl at the mineral springs of Sta. Lucia,—early morning. This is very simple, with a beautiful Italian sunlight effect. And here I may observe that the Neapolitan Exhibition is open to artists of all nations:—nor is any revision of works observed, which accounts for the presence of many canvases perfectly laughable. Vianelli, of European fame, does not exhibit any of his clever sepia interiors this year.

The hall of the celebrated Toro Farnese is occupied by works of sculpture. If there is nothing good, there are at least two groups highly amusing and significant. A Sicilian artist has amused himself and probably pleased his sovereign by composing a life-size group representing Religion supporting King Ferdinand, and guarded by an angel who places his foot on an evil spirit. On the other side of this group is a child bearing the scales of justice! How much the artist is to get for this plaster blasphemy I know not; but a more impudent caricature (at the present moment) it would be difficult to imagine. Another artist has, however beaten the Sicilian artist right out. A small bronze group represents Religion triumphing over Impiety and Anarchy. Impiety is represented by a female figure, under whose arm are two books inscribed Voltaire and Luther! Anarchy has taken off her mask, and let fall two scrolls, on which are written "Comunismo" and "Costituto." On the pedestal we are told in Latin, that heaven has smiled on Pio Nono and on Ferdinand.—Very tame are the St. Michaels and the Nymphs after this:—and Neapolitan sculptors, I am sorry to say, work more *con amore* in representing hypocrisy and blasphemy than in portraying the beautiful and the artistic.—The architectural designs are worth studying by an Englishman for their breadth and nobility. There is no cramped economy of space,—which so frequently enters into our calculations. A group of miniatures, very good, by Courson, and some imitations in crayons from English works make up all that is worth noticing in that class.

On the whole there is little promise in this Exhibition. The genius of painting and sculpture has left its cradle:—and what talent remains languishes under the diseased patronage of princes and of a public whose attention is too much occupied with political troubles to reflect the peaceful images of Art. H. W.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The four vacancies in the Associate list of the members of the Royal Academy were on Monday evening last filled up by the election of Messrs. Boxall, E. W. Cooke, Frank Stone, and Henry Weekes. A majority of the artists so chosen are, we believe, men whose admission into the ranks of the Academy the public approbation will very generally ratify:—and the principle of variety has been kept in view by the electors in recruiting for their corps of Associates. Mr. Boxall is well and popularly known for his portraits of our later native poets. Mr. Cooke is a painter of Dutch and other marine subjects,—and the author of some of the most beautiful etchings that have appeared in our country. His folio work on Old London Bridge will be remembered as an example. Mr. Frank Stone has been long a favourite with the public in a speciality which is too well known to the readers of the *Athenæum* to need description here,—but which has of late years been gradually expanding into a larger manner, and expatiating successfully over a wider field of practice. Mr. Weekes is a sculptor,—whose claim rests principally on one or two clever busts.—Without descending into invidious particulars, we may say that while this election to a

large extent yields positive gratification, it yields, like every election of the kind, relative pain. The list of candidates numbered, we believe, sixty-five; and amongst these are men whose continued exposure to the sickness that springs from hope deferred cannot well be justified. Where four Associates are to be chosen out of sixty-five candidates, it is a matter of course that there will be sixty-one malcontents:—but it should not be matter of fact that on behalf of any the public should be malcontent too. Two at least of the gentlemen now chosen have waited long for the honour which falls to them at last,—and earned it by all titles, including that of delay. Others who have long been adding that probation to their other claims have not yet been fortunate enough to reach the same termination. For example, it is difficult to understand how, year by year, the claim of such works as Exhibition after Exhibition Mr. Linton has placed on the walls of the Academy can be overlooked. Men outside the Academy are puzzled, in this case and in others, into seeking what kind of arguments they can be which defeat a title that so far as the canvases are concerned is made out again and again. We cannot but say that the present election, most satisfactory as it is in some respects, gives point and urgency to these reflections.

The marble statue of Flaxman by the late Mr. M. L. Watson has been presented to University College by the committee for superintending its execution and erection. The subscription list includes the names of many persons distinguished in Literature and in Art, and by birth and rank,—but the amount subscribed is under 400*l.*—and is therefore insufficient to cover the ordinary expenses. The difference has been paid from the estate of Mr. Watson:—so that, in truth, the statue—and it is a fine one—is nearly as much a gift from the artist as from the subscribers. The statue has been placed amid Flaxman's own works:—of which, our readers know, the College possesses Flaxman's own models.

The Liverpool Academy of the Fine Arts has awarded its prize of 50*l.* to Mr. W. Holman Hunt for his picture of "Valentine rescuing Sylvia from Proteus, and reproaching him for his falsity,"—taken from Shakspeare's "Two Gentlemen of Verona."

A valuable addition has just been made to our scanty knowledge of Vandyck. His marriage to Mary Ruthven, it now appears, took place only the year before he died.—Colonel Stepany Cowell in his Gowrie researches having discovered that in 1640 Patrick Ruthven assigned 120*l.* per annum to his daughter Mary preparatory to her marriage with Sir Anthony. The great artist died in 1641,—on the very day on which the only offspring of their marriage was baptized.—Another fact from the Gowrie papers relates to Vandyck's works. Patrick Ruthven appealed in 1644—apparently ineffectually—to the House of Lords to prevent his granddaughter from being defrauded of her father's collection of pictures:—they, it is stated, being fraudulently sent out of England by one Richard Andrews.

A correspondent whose authority in such matters is absolute informs us that the picture of Apollo Slaying the Serpent Python, which decorates the ceiling of the Gallery of Apollo at the Louvre—to which we alluded in our Fine-Art Gossip of last week—is not, as we had been told, the work of M. Delaroche. M. Delaroche our correspondent describes as "Chief of the Anecdotal School of French Painters"; and he says—"It is M. Eugène Delacroix, Chief of the Anti-Classical or Colourist School," to whom this work—"assuredly his best," adds our correspondent—is due.

The statue of William the Conqueror—of which we spoke a week or two ago—has been inaugurated with great ceremonial in his native town of Falaise.

From our Paris correspondence we learn that the long projected completion of the Louvre is at length likely to be effected. The late Minister of Public Works nominated a commission to examine a plan of works to be executed for the purpose of uniting the North Gallery which joins the Tuileries by the Pavillon Marsan, and extends as far as

the Rue de Rohan, with the Pavillon de Beauvais, which remains unfinished at the extremity of the Place de l'Oratoire. The part of this gallery near the Tuileries was commenced in 1807. It is for the present appropriated to the use of the National Guard, to the residence of the commander-in-chief of that force, and to a barracks. Its completion would render the Place du Carrousel a regular square, the largest in the world, by creating a building parallel to that of the picture gallery. Under the reign of King Louis Philippe, as our readers know, the completion of this gallery was often contemplated. Plans had been sent from all countries, and the King was desirous to see such a work accomplished.—The Council-general of the Seine proceeds with great energy with the work of continuing the Rue de Rivoli; the old houses so long an offence to the artistic eye in the Place du Carrousel are in course of being taken down, and a wide space is already cleared in front of the Palais National. The aspect of that part of Paris is greatly improved,—and will be rendered very imposing by the completion of the Louvre. The grant necessary for the execution of these important works will be shortly demanded from the Assembly,—and they will be carried on simultaneously with the prolongation of the Rue de Rivoli.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Lohengrin et Tannhäuser de Richard Wagner. By Franz Liszt.—The readers of the *Athenæum* may not have forgotten that the opera of "Lohengrin," last year performed at Weimar to inaugurate the statue of Herder, was noticed at some length by us—[No. 1194]. They may remember, too, that we have from time to time glanced at the state and prospects of Romanticism in music; of which in France M. Berlioz, and in Germany Herr Schumann and Wagner, are the most distinguished creating representatives. In the pamphlet before us, we meet Dr. Liszt as the champion of the "new idea";—and the writer and the subject are alike sufficiently important to demand the most courteous, but also the closest, attention.

It may be as well once again to characterize Dr. Liszt as one of the men of genius who adorn a not very rich period. In executive music—as offering that interpretation which approaches towards and enhances creation—he is without a peer. In picturesque and high-toned eloquence as a writer he is little less distinguished. In such a man, however, it would be hardly fair to expect that the power to weigh should equal the power to enjoy, and to excite others. The enthusiasm that carries away an audience, and the calmly-balanced judgment that admits merits without grudging and that denounces faults without despair, are separate, if not opposite gifts.—While the magnificent pianist's hands are on his instrument, it is not easy to believe that any melody or chord which he pleases to protect can be insipid or crude.—While we have been reading this pamphlet it has required a more than ordinary effort to test the raptures which it expresses by our own impressions of the object of the rapture. Sincerity—self-consistency—the friendliness which will fight to the death—the perfect trust that confirms itself,—are in every line. It is as eager and animated a piece of pleading as was ever given to the public; delightful as an addition to our too meagre stores of musical literature in right of its manner.

But, in proportion as we yield to enchantment of style, and sympathize with every author or artist who stands forward to illustrate what he conceives to be a new principle and to unveil one whom he worships as a new poet,—we are bound to reflect, to examine, and to compare. In the present case, we must examine how much of Dr. Liszt's own fervid and apprehensive nature exists in Herr Wagner's music;—how much of the art that continues or breeds art—that establishes a reputation—that marks a state of progress!—Let it be first observed, that the musical appearance with which we have to deal is neither an accidental nor an insulated phenomenon. It belongs to the tendencies of the time and the state

of society in which we are living. Every world of thoughtful imagination is at present traversed, not so much by revolution, as by the desire for revolution,—capriciously varied in its forms and utterances,—capriciously manifested. The latter-day prophets who deify "brute force" and "golden silence" as the savage or the still fit takes them,—the pre-Raphaelites, who protest against meretricious beauty in the most virtuously ugly outlines and the most gorgeously voluptuous colours,—the intellectual actors who emit strange noises by way of being natural in their passion, and do violence to the music of their dramatic poet's verse lest they should seem to have any old-world weakness for chaunt and cadence,—are severally exponents of the same impatience and weariness. They illustrate respectively the same determination to be profound and original,—but also the same lack of such fervent inspiration as kindled the Shakespeares and the Handels, and of such lofty strength and diligent culture as lifted up the Miltons and Michael Angelos to the conquests made by them for the world.

In the case of Herr Wagner, the existence of some such restless and vague ambition not borne out by any commensurate powers must, we think, have been deduced by us from Dr. Liszt's eager and earnest panegyric,—even if we could not speak from experience of the opera 'Lohengrin.'—

"Wagner's system [writes his panegyrist] attaches itself to the tradition of Gluck by the importance which he gives to the eloquence of dramatic declamation, and to that of Weber by the declamatory eloquence and sensibility of his instrumentation. He would certainly have written the dedicatory epistle to 'Alceste,' if Gluck had not done so, but he goes beyond Gluck and Weber in the practice of their theories. Appropriating, with a rare felicity and the boldest possible intelligence, all the conquests which music has made since the death of those great men,—utilising all the resources which new instruments offer, as well as all the beautiful applications of the same which have been introduced by Meyerbeer and Berlioz principally, he has made every means gained by modern progress subservient to his end,—the tendency of which is, to secure, by a system more vast than Gluck's, and a principle more absolute than Weber's, the predominance of the poetical sense, to which voice and orchestra were subjugated by both masters."

The above are high promises and claims. On further following the advocate, we shall gather that Herr Wagner's "vaster system" is a more complete abnegation of rhythmical melody than the composer of 'Alceste' thought necessary,—and that his "more absolute principle" means more complicated orchestral resources, but a more fixed and formal employment of the same. Thus, in turn, we are invited to admire want of beauty and want of variety. Dr. Liszt boasts that in these two operas by Herr Wagner there is hardly a song or a theme that will bear detaching from its place,—he writes charmingly of impalpable rhythms, of vaporous melodies, of severe perfection. We observe, however, that while treating 'Lohengrin,' which he puts forth as Herr Wagner's most matured and triumphant example, he is reduced to give an analysis of the story in place of such analysis of musical structure as he affords us while speaking of the overture to the 'Tannhäuser.' The former, in short, is described as a rich and severe musical drama, in which the voices, emancipated from all previously accepted melodic trammels, are free to recite what the scene demands,—while the orchestra is left as the exponent of all those conventionalities which are so terrible to the transcendentalists. Now, as we last year remarked,—that the sonority of voices should be disregarded, while that of the instruments should be choicely watched,—that the singer should neither have phrases nor bars, while the accompaniment must have both, else would Chaos come again,—is an inconsistency in defence of which no reason can be given,—save an apology for poverty in melody. In truth, when we turn to Herr Wagner's regular themes, cited by Dr. Liszt from the overture to the 'Tannhäuser'—phrases of a desperate aridity,—when we remember what passed for *motifs* in the composer's earlier opera of 'The Flying Dutchman,'—we can understand why, seeing that he writes "upon system" and that such are the best tunes which he can produce, any phrase in which the ear is appealed to by the recurrence of attractive sounds should be branded as meretricious or sensual. Nevertheless, rhythm and me-

lody are still not proved to be incapable of bearing any weight of passion that the most severe drama-lover may require. We imagine that no opera-frequenter has ever found Gluck's 'O, malheureuse Iphigénie,' or Weber's great *soprano aria* from 'Der Freischütz,' or the *terzett* from Rossini's 'Guillaume Tell,' beneath the dignity, pathos, and excitement of their several situations, albeit they all contain first-class examples of *cantilena* of the purest symmetry and beauty.—Again, before we consent to abolish those horrible things, the accomplishments of vocal skill, Herr Wagner or Dr. Liszt must prove to us that the opening of the final duet in 'Otello' is made less fearfully-exciting because it offers to the *prima donna* a magnificent display of *gorgheggi*,—thus calling forth all her powers not only of passion but of art, in a crisis of the extreme frenzy. That the mathematical forms and devices of music have been abused and impoverished by the feeble and frivolous is true;—but Music, like Poetry, is an art of "numbers," and, like Painting, of adornment no less than of idea:—and unless these be assembled and employed, it degenerates into savagery,—the passion thereof is tamed down into the wail of the æolian harp, plaintive, indeed, but saying nothing,—the joy into the carol of birds, sweet enough, but which has no articulate language.

These specialities and formalities, moreover, are owned by none more implicitly than by the Romantics and their champions. That it is impossible utterly to efface the laws and forms of Music because she is to be dragged at the heels of the car of Drama, is most oddly proved by the very "absolute principle"—the improved *Weberism* claimed for Herr Wagner. Dr. Liszt lays great stress on his favourite's extraordinary merit in closely characterizing his personages, and also certain of their environments, by peculiar orchestral phrases, repeated so often as they appear, or as the influencing circumstances are mentioned.—Not forgetting such examples as Meyerbeer's *Marcel* and Weber's *Eglantine*, (where, indeed, the use of this characterization is occasional, not constant,) we must maintain that this practice is a formalism no less formal than the old vocal formalities so harshly treated:—one betokening meagreness of invention and poverty of resource. So far from character being marked thereby, it is confined within the limits of the old dramatic label which announced a miser as *Gripe* and a swash-buckler as *Strong-i-th-Arm*,—while musical expression is reduced to the conventionalisms of *ballad* language in which eyes up-raised mean devotion and a hand on the heart stands for love. How did our Shakespeare work?—If his Fools use catchwords (and even they use them but sparingly), his *Lears* and *Lady Macbeths* never do. His *Shylocks* does not cross the stage perpetually saying "I am a vindictive Jew." His *Weird Sisters* are not ticketed.—The comparison, which it might not be fair to apply to one who considered that Music was restrained in its powers and subject to laws of its own, may be justly adduced to confirm or to confound a writer, like Herr Wagner, who claims for his art liberty to go beyond all known boundaries, and equality as a medium of expression with Painting and Poetry. The older composers, who wrought under a narrower dispensation, could give colour to their creatures without sacrificing that variety which not only is the essence of natural humour, but gives its utmost charm to Art.—The *Ghost* in 'Don Giovanni' speaks sepulchrally, but on more than two modulations.—Handel's *Iphis* in 'Jephtha'—perhaps the most delicately touched example of youth and innocence existing in music—is known from the other personages as often as she sings; yet without any cuckoo-note to tell of her virginity and her hard fate. We repeat that the new method, praised for its dramatic force and propriety, is essentially an artifice as mechanical after its kind as the old *cabalettas* and *cadenzas* which drive the transcendentalist into fits; and we submit that mechanical transcendentalism is less worthy, because more pretending, than mechanical frivolity.

Such is our calm judgment on the two main points established by Dr. Liszt,—and not established, we think, to the favour of the new composer. Let us

be thought ever so harsh or unwilling, we cannot consent to admire a school of Art in the productions of which any one element of perfection is left out; or in which any one material is so abused that some other material must be immoderately employed by way of counterbalance,—else would the statue not stand upright,—else would the building crumble—the poem pass off into a raving of unknown tongues—the picture melt away into a confused blot of colour.

SADLER'S WELLS.—On Friday week an opportunity was given to the young actor Mr. Robinson to exhibit his talents in the character of *Claude Melnotte*. There were, as matter of course, crudities in the performance of one so stage-inexperienced;—but that performance was full, nevertheless, of promise. Picturesque in deportment and pleasing in enunciation, well-educated and intelligent,—the personal appearance of Mr. Robinson is altogether in his favour. He won the plaudits of the house by the fervour of his style,—and certainly looked the part better than his older predecessors. More than once he was honoured with a call before the curtain. No doubt remains that Mr. Robinson in juvenile characters is a great acquisition to the modern stage.

OLYMPIC.—On Monday, 'As You like It' was performed, with Miss Laura Keane as *Rosalind*. As an elegant impersonator of comic characters, the manner in which Miss Keane succeeded in this difficult part may be said to have established her. For the more emphatic portions of the text we find that she still lacks power;—but for the general business marks of good training are decided, and in the lighter situations she was quite at home.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The short *interregnum* betwixt our spring and winter musical seasons, is all but at an end.—The first of the *Orchestral Concerts* at St. Martin's Hall will be held on Monday week. Besides the scarcity of good music during the period of the year which this series is purposed to occupy, the plan of the new Society, as was pointed out when we announced its formation, is eminently calculated to conciliate and attract all who have complained of the Philharmonic Concerts as a sort of "close borough," where only a few elect composers and artists ever get a hearing or receive fair justice. If there be any sincerity in the dissentients, and if these Orchestral Concerts at all keep the promise of their announcement, they should—and we hope they will—be fully supported.—Miss Dolby's agreeable *Soirées* for the performance of chamber music will commence, we perceive, on the 18th inst.

Mr. Charles Horsley has made considerable progress in a new Oratorio, on the story of 'Joseph.' This evidences a facility and enterprise worthy of all recognition in a day when so many who would fain be composers abstain from efforts to produce works of a high order because writing is not immediately profitable,—or who desire from some other equally prosaic motive to avoid the struggle which is part of every artist's training and experience. With facility and enterprise, however, should come self-mistrust:—let us hope that the latter has kept pace with the former. No listeners will welcome a really English Oratorio more cordially than ourselves.

Signor Schira is said to have been nominated Mr. Bunn's musical director for the coming season at Drury Lane.—Rumour mentions operas by Mr. Balfe and by Mr. Benedict as works which probably may be performed. We believe that the former gentleman has long had in his hands a *libretto* by Mr. Bunn, identical in subject with that of Signor Verdi's 'Rigoletto'—founded on M. Victor Hugo's tragedy 'Le Roi s'amuse.'—A contemporary states that Mr. Bunn has been recently in Paris, endeavouring to engage Mlle. Alboni. What service this lady could possibly do to his theatre—her standing in the Opera world considered—it is hard to divine.—There was some talk, awhile since, of the engagement of Madame

Novello:—but without foundation, since that lady, we perceive, has left England to fulfil an engagement at Venice,—and will not return to us till after Easter next.

Having so often expressed our opinion of Signor Verdi as a composer, it is not necessary that we should do more than announce the performance of an English version of his best opera, 'Ernani,' at the Surrey Theatre. An original opera is "underlined" in the bills of the same establishment, concerning which we may have more to say.—Another new opera, by Mr. E. Fitzwilliam, is announced as being in preparation for the next Haymarket season.—Mr. Webster's first opera, however, we believe, will be Mr. Macfarren's 'Charles II.' In this most of the parts will be sustained by their original representatives.

We have tidings from St. Petersburg that the sensation created there by the performance of Signor Ronconi in 'Maria di Rohan' has been something unprecedented. The part of the *prima donna* has been taken by Madame Medori, who last year belonged to an Italian opera company at Brussels.—Signora Borghi, a new *contralto*, has appeared, as promised, at Naples,—and is praised by some Italian journals as being a singer of superior quality.

His Majesty of Saxony is announced by the German papers to have annulled the sentence passed against Herr Wagner, the composer of 'Rienzi,' 'Lohengrin' and other operas, who, while *Kapellmeister* at Dresden took part in the German revolutions. We should be glad to hear of the same grace being extended to Herr Roedel, the second *Kapellmeister*, who followed Herr Wagner's example—but still, we read, in duration at Königstein on the Elbe.

A new play by Mr. Jerrold, and one by Mr. Marston, are in the hands of Mr. Kean, for early representation.

Among the novelties which have been accepted at the *Théâtre Français* are, 'Le Château de la Seiglière,' by M. Jules Sandeau, 'Romulus,' by M. A. Dumas, 'Misanthrope et Repentir,' a new translation by M. Gérard de Nerval, in which Mlle. Rachel will appear,—a five-act play, by M. Augier,—a drama by Mr. Vacquerie,—'Le Sage et le Fou,' by M. Méry,—'La Fille qui cherche,' by M. Mallefille,—'Corilla,' by M. Francis Wey, &c. &c.

MISCELLANEA

The Houses of Parliament.—The roof of the new House of Commons is to be retained as it is in its improved state; but the benches and other furniture of the body of the chamber are undergoing considerable alterations. The reporters' and strangers' galleries are also to be altered; and when the alterations are completed, the House will present a much more agreeable appearance than it did at the end of last session. The yards and sheds, in the immediate neighbourhood of the House, in which the masons worked, in New Palace-yard are about to be removed, and are to be reconstructed on an abutment close to Westminster-bridge, where piles have been sunk; and a platform is in the course of formation for the workmen's sheds being built upon it. Since the sale of the materials of the old House of Commons and House of Lords the new buildings have presented a very unsightly appearance; but now that the old buildings are almost entirely removed, the beauty of the new buildings has become apparent. The new window constructed at the western end of Westminster-hall is now shown to great advantage, and attracts general attention from its architectural beauty. The main entrance to either house of Parliament is to be through Westminster-hall;—the Peers and Commoners passing from Westminster-hall along the corridor leading to the centre of the building,—the Peers turning to the right, and the Commoners to the left.—*Times*.

Hevesine.—In your No. for November 1—review of the Catalogue of the Great Exhibition—there is a paragraph relative to the hydro-borate of lime, which is also called Hevesine. Its existence was first made out by a friend of mine who has resided many years in the province of Tarama, Peru, and who lately has sent to me a parcel of it from

thence. I am led to believe that this curious saline body may be procured in some quantity; and accordingly I have lately written to my friend to import into this country as much as he can of it, feeling assured that this particular salt of borax may be most usefully employed in the arts—particularly in glass making. I hope shortly to have some details relative to the salt of borax as found in the desert plains of Peru, when I will do myself the pleasure of again communicating with you.—I am, &c. W. BOLLARBT.
St. Peter's Alley, Cornhill.

P.S. In my paper to the Geographical Society on 'Southern Peru,' read a few months since, I have alluded to the salts of borax as existing in the Pampa of Tamarugal in company with large deposits of nitrate of soda and other saline bodies.

Museum of Economic Botany.—A museum of this kind is in course of collection at the Kew Gardens. The object is, to bring together such products from all parts of the world as cannot be shown in the living plants of a garden, nor in the preserved ones of a herbarium. In this way it is intended to collect and arrange in the new museum such fruits and seeds as are deserving of notice, especially those which are of large size, or possess any peculiarity of form or structure. All flowers and plants which, from their make, are unsuited to the *Hortus Siccus*, and which may require preservation in spirits or acids, specimens of woods used in commerce, or which would appear to be deserving of notice from their beauty, hardness, &c., will come within the range of the collection. In the same way will be added gums and resins,—especially those employed in the arts or in domestic economy; also dye stuffs, of which very few are as yet known to science; also the medicinal substances which, in the various shapes of seeds, leaves, gums, oils, roots, &c., exist in unknown extent throughout the East. Active steps are being taken by the Colonial authorities to secure the co-operation of governors of colonies, managers of botanic gardens abroad, travellers, merchants, and others. Parcels or packages will be brought from abroad free of charge by any of Her Majesty's ships, or by the royal mail vessels, or Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers.—*Inquirer*.

Institute of Fine Arts for Glasgow.—The Builder says:—"It is proposed to erect Exhibition Rooms in George Square, and to establish periodical Exhibitions of ancient and modern Art. Plans and drawings of the proposed building have been exhibited in the council chamber."

Professor Gorini.—This gentleman, who is professor of natural history at the University of Lodi, made recently before a circle of private friends, a remarkable experiment illustrative of his theory as to the formation of mountains. He melts some substances, known only to himself, in a vessel, and allows the liquid to cool. At first it presents an even surface; but a portion continues to ooze up from beneath, and gradually elevations are formed, until at length ranges and chains of hills are formed, exactly corresponding in shape with those which are found on the earth. Even to the stratification the resemblance is complete, and M. Gorini can produce on a small scale the phenomena of volcanoes and earthquakes. He contends, therefore, that the inequalities on the face of the globe are the result of certain materials, first reduced by the application of heat to a liquid state, and then allowed gradually to consolidate.—In another and more practically useful field of research the learned professor has developed some very important facts. He has succeeded to a most surprising extent in preserving animal matter from decay without resorting to any known process for that purpose. Specimens are shown by him of portions of the human body which, without any alteration in their natural appearance, have been exposed to the action of the atmosphere for six and seven years; and he states that at a trifling cost he can keep meat for any length of time in such a way that it can be eaten quite fresh. The importance of such a discovery, if on practical investigation it is found to answer, will be more readily understood when it is remembered that the flocks of sheep in Australia are boiled down into tallow, their flesh being otherwise almost valueless, and that in South America vast herds of cattle are annually slaughtered for the sake of their hides alone.—*Times*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—S.—*Δίον*—G. W.—received.
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1806	£2500	£79 10 10	£1208 8 0
1811	1000	23 10 2	£217 8 0
1818	1000	34 16 10	£118 10 0

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
231	1807	£200	£208 12 1	£408 12 1
1374	1810	1200	1180 5 6	£380 5 6
3295	1810	2000	2038 17 8	£6038 17 8

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Age when Policy was issued.	Date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Reduced Annual Premium for the current Year.
20	On or before 14th May.	£1,000	£10 6 8	£10 12 8
30	1,000	24 4 8	13 7 6	17 6 6
40	1,000	42 15 0	23 10 0	23 10 0
50	1,000	66 11 8	36 12 8	36 12 8

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